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Moshe Vardi freed after two days of questioning

RAINE MARCUS

Yediot Aharonot editor Moshe Vardi was released yesterday after 48 hours of intensive interrogation by the National Serious Crimes Squad in Petah Tikva.

Vardi and Yediot news editor Ruth Ben-Ari, who was also questioned under caution over the past three days, allegedly commissioned wiretapping on the phone of Dov Yudkovsky, an editor at Ma'ariv.

Private investigators Amir Ben-Asher, Ya'acov Bak and Rafi Friedman were also questioned yesterday about the bug on Yudkovsky's phone. Police sources say Ben-Asher installed the bug on Yudkovsky's phone.

Bak introduced Ben-Asher to Ben-Ari, according to police and to a statement given by Bak himself. In an unrelated case, Bak and Ben-Asher are awaiting trial for conspiring to murder three members of the Russian mafia here. Bak and Ben-Asher agreed to cooperate with police after realizing they may face lengthy prison sentences.

Meanwhile, Friedman, charged with more than 40 counts of wiretapping, was re-arrested on Sunday for allegedly receiving money indirectly from Nimrodi, via his attorney Moti Katz.

A senior police source said last night that police have sufficient evidence now to indict Vardi on wiretapping charges. This latest development is unconnected to state witness Ya'acov Tsur's evidence against Ma'ariv publisher Ofer Nimrodi and others for commissioning wiretapping and obstructing justice. Nimrodi, presently in custody, appealed to Tel Aviv District Court yesterday against his seven-day remand.

Katz was also questioned yesterday in connection with obstructing justice charges. Since his clients Friedman and Tsur waived their client/lawyer rights, scores of tapes, reportedly containing conversations recorded between Katz and Nimrodi and Ma'ariv security officer David Ronen and supporting allegations, may now be used in evidence.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal estimated yesterday that indictments against Nimrodi and others suspected of commissioning wiretapping may be issued earlier than planned.

"The police, with Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz heading the operation, have worked efficiently and professionally on this investigation, which may be completed earlier than anticipated," he told the Post yesterday.

Comment, Page 2

'Rabin's trip to US vital to Syrian talks'

ALON PINKAS

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin's trip to Washington next week is vital to the future of Israeli-Syrian negotiations, a senior US source close to the talks said yesterday.

The source said the US believes real progress in the talks will only be made with the direct involvement of President Clinton.

The talks are at a crossroads, but the US disagrees they have collapsed, as some circles in Israel believe. As a result, the Clinton-Rabin meeting is very important, he said.

He added the sides have made progress on all issues except for the security arrangements.

"That is why we encourage the talks to concentrate on this and hopefully the talks between the respective chiefs of staff of both countries will meet soon," he said.

He added the perception in Israel that Assad is interested in peace with the US, rather than with Israel, is unfounded.

"He [Assad] wants peace with Israel. He wants the Golan and he wants the preservation and continuity of the Ba'ath regime."



Partisan veteran Haya Bielsky-Gershon last night lights one of six torches at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem ceremony opening Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day. (Flash 90)

PM: Holocaust will always overshadow Allied victory

BATSHEVA TSUR

FIFTY years after the victory over Nazi Germany and the liberation of the death camps, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin last night thanked the Allied forces in the name of the Jewish people.

Speaking at the state ceremony ushering in Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day at Yad Vashem in Jerusalem, Rabin said, however, that the Allied victory would always be overshadowed by the Holocaust.

The ceremony was opened by President Ezer Weizman, who also referred to the significance of the 50th anniversary of the liberation.

When V-E Day is marked next week in Europe, he said, "with the attendance of the Israeli president as symbol of Israel's sovereignty... the Jewish people will say proudly, loud and clear: 'I shall not die but shall live.'"

Weizman declared.

But in the plaza beside the Warsaw Ghetto memorial, an awe-filled silence enveloped the overflow crowd of survivors and their families, as well as diplomats, dignitaries, Israelis and tourists from all walks of life as the national flag was lowered to half-mast.

Standing next to the flame that was lit by Yad Vashem advisory board head Yosef Burg, the prime minister's voice rang out in the dark: "In the name of the Jewish people - the best of whose sons and daughters went to their deaths facing the 'walls of death' and in the gas chambers; on behalf of the ghetto fighters, who pulled the trigger until they could no longer; on behalf of the survivors of the Holocaust, and on behalf of their sons and daughters."

For some in the silent crowd, the emotion and memories were too difficult to bear, as six survivors repeated their horrific stories against the background of the familiar Holocaust Remembrance Day melodies.

"Sorry. I just can't tell you about my feelings," said a Holocaust survivor, who left Poland as a child.

As the six representatives kindled the flames of the torches representing the Six Million, a handful of elderly survivors, some blind, and were treated by paramedics from a Nahal unit. No one was reported in serious condition.

But 50 years after, it was clear, too, that even while the number of survivors was dwindling, the number of youths interested in the Holocaust was increasing. Hundreds of Jerusalem youngsters packed the stairs around the plaza, and many sat on the ground along the Avenue of the Righteous where they could hear but not see.

"It's so touching. This is what Israel is all about," said Debora Kahane, 20, a New York-born student at Hebrew University.

Effi Lavie, 14, of Jerusalem's Ramot neighborhood, said he was not sorry the councillor at his school had suggested he come. "I can't see anything, but I can feel the atmosphere," he said from behind a large throng, whose sole view was of a tv cameraman on a giant crane.

Itm adds:

More than 1,500 people took part in a central memorial ceremony at the Kosmos Hotel in Moscow last night. It was attended by Israel's ambassador to Moscow, Aliza Shenhar, and representatives of the Jewish Agency and Jewish veterans.

Main events marking Holocaust Remembrance Day

AT 10 o'clock this morning a siren will sound throughout the country for two minutes in memory of the six million Jews who died in the Holocaust.

Immediately after the siren, a ceremony commemorating the Warsaw Ghetto uprising and its leaders will begin at Yad Vashem. The president, prime minister, Knesset speaker, Supreme Court president, chief of staff and other dignitaries will lay wreaths.

Other main events commemorating Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day in Jerusalem include:

- "To Every Person There is a Name" ceremony, beginning at 10:30 in the Knesset. Representatives from the various countries from which
- Jews perished will take part in the readings, as will Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, who will read names from Russia, and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who will read names from Belarus.
- A new exhibition, "To Return and To Live" opens at the Knesset today, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II and the Allied liberation of the concentration and death camps. The exhibition includes pictures, articles, a video, witnesses testimonies, maps and educational materials.
- At 1 p.m. a ceremony will be held in the Hall of Remembrance at Yad Vashem. An assembly at 5:30 p.m. will also mark 50th anniversary of the end of the war, with the participation of Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein.

3 IDF bases in areas to be 'partly vacated'

ALON PINKAS and JOSE ROSENFELD

THREE IDF bases in Judea and Samaria are to be partially vacated, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin announced at yesterday's cabinet meeting.

This will be the first step of what he has previously called "pre-redeployment."

The bases - Training Base 3 (near Nablus, used by the Military Police), Training Base 4 (north of Ramallah, infantry), and the Field Engineering School in Adorayim (south of Hebron) - have been for many years used for basic training.

Their designation will now change, and they will be used to host forces currently deployed in Palestinian cities and towns, which will be redeployed to allow free elections for a Palestinian council, as provided for in the Oslo agreement.

The basic training will be moved to locations within the Green Line, a senior IDF source confirmed.

Rabin said the IDF is "exploring the possibility of evacuating, in the near future, three training camps and relocating them inside the Green Line."

Later, while touring Daliat al-Carmel, he elaborated: "Three bases will be relocated and moved to Israel. We plan to use them as headquarters for units and forces with missions in the area. Until now, they were used as boot camps, and thus used by non-combat-trained soldiers. This is not abandonment, but evacuation for a different use," Rabin said.

"According to the Camp David Accords, and then the Oslo accord, the IDF will redeploy in Judea and Samaria according to security needs, not necessarily training needs," Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said after the cabinet meeting.

Rabin said that no decisions will be made, nor any immediate action taken until Finance Minister Avraham Shohat meets with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak to work out the financial implications.

Shohat told the cabinet the relocation will require meticulous planning and would cost "hundreds of millions of shekels," and the Defense Ministry submitted a request for about NIS 1 billion to fund redeployment in Judea and Samaria.

After the meeting, Shohat and senior Treasury officials met with Defense Ministry Director-General David Ivry, Shahak, and other senior officers to discuss the plan.

The IDF has criticized the Treasury for not fully reimbursing it for the costs of redeployment in the Gaza strip, and has expressed fears that the cost of

Ze'evi also denounced the move. PA spokesman Nabil Abu Rudeineh said the move "does not go far enough."

Settlement leaders and Peace Now reacted predictably, with the settlement leaders blasting the move, and Peace Now praising it.

"What else needs to be written on the wall," said Elkana Local Council head Nissim Slomiansky, one of the leaders of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza. "In a meeting we had with Rabin on Sunday, he said the Palestinian Authority is not providing the goods, is not stopping terror. Yet he continues to move ahead with unilateral concessions."

Slomiansky said that even if the new recruits in the training bases are replaced by soldiers moved from other bases, the net result will be there will be fewer soldiers in the territories. The fewer the soldiers, he said, the more freedom the terrorists will have to act, endangering both settlers and Israelis inside the Green Line.

The council issued a statement saying that the decision "indicates the beginning of the withdrawal of the IDF from Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, despite the terrorism that is taking place. This decision will lead to the 'Gaza-fication' of Judea and Samaria and to an increase in terror in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza, and in 'little Israel.'"

Council spokesman Aharon Domb said that among the plans being considered to fight the move is for settlers to move into any base where soldiers are withdrawn, and to continue traveling in Palestinian populated areas.

"There will be those who say we are taking the law into our hands," Domb said. "But we must continue to be able to move everywhere, and be everywhere, because when we are there, this means the IDF is there, and there will be more security."

Peace Now, on the other hand, warmly welcomed Rabin's announcement. "Peace Now welcomes the prime minister's announcement that a decision was made to uproot three training bases in the West Bank," it said in a statement.

"Peace Now expects that the evacuation of the bases will be completed by the July 1, in order to make it possible to comply with the schedule that was agreed upon by both sides during negotiations. The evacuation of the bases is the first positive sign of redeployment of the IDF, which is necessary to make possible the elections in the territories and the furthering of the entire process," Liat Collins and Herb Keiron contributed to this report.

'Pre-redeployment' is a signal to Arafat

COMMENT ALON PINKAS

important. By declaring his intent now, Rabin is signaling Yasser Arafat that he intends to at least try to meet the July 1 deadline, set several months ago as the target date for initial redeployment.

That deadline has been jeopardized by terror attacks, and Arafat's pledge to combat Hamas and Islamic Jihad is still being tested.

Rabin, who pledged to continue the process despite recurrent terror attacks, has kept his word. Whether the process is a peace process, a separation process, or a doomed-to-fail process is a matter of opinion.

Rabin, it seems, is still giving it a chance.

While politicians and the press frequently use the term "pre-redeployment" to describe the partial withdrawal and realignment of IDF forces outside Palestinian population centers as a prerequisite to elections, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin makes it a point to employ the term "pre-redeployment."

This is not merely a semantic difference, but a political statement. Rabin is moving, as he typically does, slowly and somewhat hesitantly. He explains that redeployment insinuates a permanent settlement, and would inevitably delineate the contours of a sovereign Palestinian entity.

According to the Oslo accords and subsequent negotiations with the Palestinians, free elections are to be held for a Palestinian council. Both sides agreed that democratic elections would be compromised if Palestinians were to vote with Israeli troops in the streets and near the polls.

Enter redeployment, or as Rabin would prefer to call it pre-redeployment.

The first phase of experimental pre-redeployment was practically announced yesterday by Rabin who said the IDF would remove the basic trainees from three bases in the territories, relocate them within the Green Line, and redesignate the bases for units that would pull out of Palestinian towns.

From a purely military point of view, this is insignificant. But the timing of the announcement is

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The Public is Invited

Probe continues into Hizbullah suicide attack

DAVID RUDGE

INTENSIVE inquiries into Tuesday's suicide car bomb attack in the security zone in which eleven IDF soldiers were wounded continued yesterday.

Two of the wounded were released from Haifa's Rambam Hospital. The condition of the seven still hospitalized was said to be good.

Northern Command's initial inquiries have revealed that the bomber was seen sitting in the booby-trapped car in a parking lot with a woman, who was observed leaving the vehicle before the attack. He then drove toward the IDF convoy of four vehicles, as it was turning into a command post outside Bim J'ball and detonated the device.

Most of the blast was absorbed by a fountain outside the gates of the command headquarters, as well as a sentry box and other security measures there.

Hizbullah TV filmed the attack, then broadcast it.

Col. Akel Hashem, commander of the SLA's western sector battalion, said it appeared that the explosives had been smuggled into the zone along a nearby wadi from Hadatha to the north.

They were then packed into the car which had been standing unused in A-Tireh, because its owner had been prevented from using it by Hizbullah. Hashem stressed that although A-Tireh is in the zone, it is situated right on the perimeter.

He said the SLA was also investigating whether local residents collaborated with Hizbullah, by helping bring in the explosives, plant them

in the car, or by supplying intelligence information. Forty people were detained for questioning.

Hizbullah leader Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah announced that the suicide bomber was Salah Ali Radar, a father of three from Milki in the Nabatiya region. He said the attack was designed to hit the IDF's intelligence apparatus.

Nasrallah put all the organization's fighters on full alert in case of retaliation by the IDF and the South Lebanese Army.

He had warned on Tuesday that Hizbullah's "holy fighters" would strike at targets in Israel if the IDF or the SLA shelled Shi'ite villages north of the zone in response to the attacks.

His comments, however, were dismissed by OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen. Amiram Levine, who visited the site of the attack along with Brig.-Gen. Giora Inbar, head of the IDF's Lebanese Liaison Unit, and other senior officers.

"I have nothing to say to Nasrallah. We will find the time and the place to act and hit Hizbullah," Levine said.

"Hizbullah is operating with all its might, all the time, in every way possible. The use of this method [suicide attacks], however, I think is a sign of a little distress because of its lack of success in other forms of operations," he said.

Levine did not rule out the possibility that residents of the zone had been involved in the suicide attack, in one way or another, but stressed that the IDF has no interest in mak-



A soldier surveys the charred remains of a command car that was hit by a suicide car bomber Tuesday afternoon. (Israel Sam)

ing life difficult for local residents.

"We are here for exactly the opposite aim - to allow the local population to live and exist normally. If it transpires, however, that there were

local people who collaborated, we will know how to deal with them," he said.

Inbar, who is heading the inquiries into the attack, said the IDF had

considered the possibility of a suicide bombing attempt and had taken the necessary precautions.

He noted that there appeared to be some link between Hizbullah and

Hamas and Islamic Jihad. "In a leaflet that was left here, Nasrallah praises Hamas and Islamic Jihad, and talks about their common aim of hitting the IDF," he said.

'Escape felt like a miracle'

DAVID RUDGE

THE blackened crater at the entrance to the IDF compound outside Bim J'ball township in the western sector of the security zone marks the spot where an Hizbullah suicide car bomber blew himself to pieces alongside an army convoy.

The blast from the detonation of nearly 200 kilograms of explosives on Tuesday afternoon blew out virtually all the windows in the nearby Bim J'ball hospital, and even broke tiles off the walls in the operating theater. All patients in the hospital at the time had to be evacuated. Those who were considered sufficiently well were sent home, and the others were transferred to Marjayoun hospital.

Two command cars in which the soldiers had traveled from the Israeli border to the compound were turned into charred wrecks. All that remained of the car bomb were bits of metal scattered over an area covering scores of meters from the center of the blast.

The extent of the damage made it even more difficult to believe that only two soldiers were moderately hurt, while another nine who were wounded escaped with only minor injuries.

As Lebanese workmen repaired damage to the road, the hospital and other buildings as well as washing away soot from the blast, one of the soldiers talked about what happened.

"It was a regular, routine convoy, and everything went as normal, the preparations for the journey and going on the road, until we got to the sentry post at the entrance to the compound here," at Bim J'ball, said Lt. Shamir Peretz, 22, from Netanya, who commanded the convoy. "Then suddenly there was an explosion and everybody got out of the vehicles. I saw them all get out and everybody took cover and then we started to deal with the wounded," said Peretz.

How did it feel to have escaped unharmed from a suicide car bomb attack? "First, and foremost I feel lucky. We had a lot of luck, all of us in the convoy, as a result of the lack of professionalism of the suicide bomber," said Peretz. "Secondly, we minimized the damage by the fact that we adhered to regulations and standing orders. If, however, he had managed to get between the vehicles, the situation would have been completely different."

Lebanese drivers were equally wary, abiding by instructions not to overtake convoys and to stop and pull to one side as the army vehicles passed. It was a clear reminder, should one have been necessary, that despite the pastoral setting, danger in Lebanon can be waiting around any bend.

Palestinian stabber bent on revenge gives himself up

BILL HUTMAN

THE Palestinian who stabbed and slightly wounded a haredi man in Jerusalem on Sunday has given himself up to security forces, court papers revealed yesterday.

Ahmed Abu Srur, 23, said he carried out the stabbing to revenge the killing by security forces of his cousin, Hamas terrorist Maher Abu Srur, during the Bus No. 25 terror attack two years ago in Jerusalem.

Ahmed Abu Srur told interrogators he turned himself in because he believed that way he would be considered a hero, police said.

On Monday, Abu Srur took a knife from his home in the Ayda refugee camp near Bethlehem and drove by taxi to the Old City. He told police minorities division and General Security Service interrogators that he stabbed the first Jew he saw.

He fled by foot and then returned to his home in the refugee camp by taxi. Later in the day, however, he went to the Civil Administration headquarters in Bethlehem and confessed to the attack.

Publication of details of the case was forbidden.

Israel will contribute \$6.5m. to cover PA deficit

ISRAEL has agreed to contribute \$6.5 million to help cover the Palestinian Authority's \$136m. budget deficit for this year, the Treasury said yesterday.

The Treasury made the announcement prior to the departure last night of the Israeli delegation to the donor country conference in Paris.

Finance Ministry Director-General David Brodet together with his Foreign Ministry counterpart Uri Savir are leading the

delegation.

The deficit, which makes up nearly a third of the Palestinians' \$444m. budget, is mostly the direct result of profligate spending, said Brodet. Spending has exceeded budget targets as the Palestinian Authority has hired more police than allowed, and increased the size of its civil administration. Moreover, the authority raised public sector wages.

The Palestinian Authority con-

JOSE ROSENFELD

tends that it has had to hire more people as a jobs program due to the closure of the territories.

A working group led by Norway, including the US, the European Union and Japan will present final deficit figures and propose how to finance the budget gap at the donor meeting. Donor countries will be asked to shift money they have earmarked for projects to fund the Palestin-

ian Authority's current expenditures.

Out of the \$25m. Israel has committed to projects, it has already transferred \$4m. to the Palestinian Authority.

The additional \$6.5m. Israel is promising will mean that 42% of the funds the country has set aside for projects will end up funding Palestinian current expenses.

The donor countries will condition the funding on better spend-

ing controls by the Palestinian Authority, the Treasury said.

Since May of last year, Israel has transferred \$65m. to the authority based on the Paris economic agreements, whereby taxes and duties on Palestinian imports and Value Added Taxes collected by Israel are transferred to the Palestinians. Should the donor countries approve the working group's proposal, their contribution to the Palestinians' this year will reach \$228m.

Cabinet discusses dire straits of PA

ALON PINKAS

THE dire economic state of the Palestinian Authority and the adverse effects this has on peace process were discussed by the cabinet yesterday.

The cabinet was briefed by, on security issues, south Lebanon, and the economic situation in the Gaza Strip by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, the head of the General Security Service, and other senior officers.

Both Shahak and Maj.-Gen. Oren Shabor, coordinator of activities in the territories, warned that further economic deterioration would endanger the PA's existence and that the political and social ramifications may be harsh.

The most worrying economic indicator is the unemployment rate, which affects Hamas' strength, Health Minister Ephraim Sneh said. Shabor said the unemployment rate in Judea and Samaria is 50 percent, while in Gaza it is close to 60%.

Peres noted that PA is not generating income because of an inefficient tax collection mechanism, and funds from donor countries have not been received.

After hearing the report, ministers began proposing aid plans to the PA. "We are not doing enough to help the Palestinians' predicament," Peres reportedly said.

Police Minister Moshe Shahal proposed that Israel make a long-term development loan of \$300 million available to the PA.

"Every shekel invested or loaned toward the betterment of the quality of life in Gaza is contributing to our security," Shahal said. He added that there is a discrepancy between Israel's security needs and the economic well-being of the PA.

Shahal's offer was almost identical to the one Environment Minister Yossi Sarid made several months ago and presented again yesterday.

Woman dies when respirator short-circuits

A 79-year-old woman, Rachel Finkelstein, died yesterday after her life support system was temporarily cut off when the machine short-circuited at Haifa's Rambam Hospital.

Apparently, the equipment of a workman doing repairs to the bathrooms in the internal medicine department short-circuited the respirator. Police are investigating.

lit

Christopher urges speedup in talks

HILLEL KUTTLER

WASHINGTON

SECRETARY of State Warren Christopher urged the Syrian and Israeli ambassadors here Tuesday afternoon to pick up the pace of their negotiations. Israeli officials said.

The meeting was the first between the ambassadors in the three weeks since US peace team coordinator Dennis Ross' visit to the region, and the second in which Christopher has participated. The officials described Christopher's message as "more of a pep talk, a symbolic gesture that the US is interested in progress, and to launch the ambassadors' talks and to urge them on."

Christopher urged Itamar Rabinovich and Walid Mualem to "move things along" in order to prepare the ground for military experts to rejoin the talks, the officials said.

Restarting the military-level talks was the aim of Ross' recent trip, but the effort failed.

Together with Ross, Rabinovich and Mualem met to meet "two or three more times" before Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's visit here at the end of next week.

'Congress will petition Clinton to move embassy'

ALON PINKAS

TWO hundred members of the US House of Representatives have already pledged their support for an initiative to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, according to Benjamin Gilman, chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Gilman, who is heading a House fact-finding delegation on a visit here, co-sponsored a 1984 bill to move the embassy, but failed to win sufficient congressional support.

"The issue is Jerusalem being the unified capital of Israel... 200 members have pledged to sign a petition which I believe we will submit to the president and to the secretary of state," Gilman said yesterday.

The delegation met with Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak and the head of the Intelligence Branch's research department, Brig.-Gen. Ya'acov Amidror, and was briefed on the military val-

ue Israel attaches to the Golan Heights.

"This is a bipartisan group on an orientation and fact-finding trip. One of the issues is obviously the negotiations between Israel and Syria. We are here to try and better understand the issues. As for the possibility of deploying US troops on the Golan as part of a possible arrangement between Israel and Syria, it came up and we are trying to determine whether it is time to formulate a position. My impression is that in Israel, the issue has not been discussed yet," Gilman said.

Gilman stressed that the administration's policy of dual containment of Iran and Iraq needs to be further implemented.

"There is a lot to do in this regard. Both countries still sponsor terrorism and their nuclear programs must be restrained."

Shahal jumps the gun

COMMENT

RAINE MARCUS

POLICE Minister Moshe Shahal noted yesterday that the police have worked professionally and efficiently in the complicated investigation of the media wiretapping affair.

But he omitted one crucial detail - without state's witness Ya'acov Tsor they would not have had enough evidence to arrest Ma'ariv publisher Ofer Nimrod and several others.

Since the case broke a year ago with the arrests of private investigator Tsor and his partner Rafi Friedman, police have questioned and arrested scores of people allegedly involved in illegal wiretapping, but have failed to bring the main suspects to trial. A senior police source has said on several occasions that although police were fully aware who commissioned the wide-scale wiretapping by Tsor and Friedman, they did not have sufficient evidence to indict.

Over the past few months, police investigating the case, who were unaware that Tsor had agreed about three months ago to testify for the prosecution, offered the pair various deals to disclose who hired them.

Comments by a Police Ministry source that the police were instrumental in persuading Tsor to testify are also not quite the case.

Tsor made the decision on his own and initiated the first discussion with Inspector-General Assaf Hefetz.

The 40-count indictment against Tsor will be dropped, and he will receive a large sum of money. Thus Shahal's comments would have been better saved until after all evidence has been consolidated and all the suspects indicted.

Student dies from stray bullet

Uri Weiss, 22, a Hebrew University student who suffered severe head injuries when a stray bullet passed through his dormitory room on Monday night and hit him, died last night at Hadassah-

University Hospital at Ein Kerem.

Police confiscated a student's weapon, and are investigating whether negligence led to Weiss's death.

lit

NEWS IN BRIEF

Man killed in auto accident

A man was killed and four others injured, two seriously and two moderately, in a collision between two cars on the Beit Dagan-Yehud road yesterday.

In another accident, a woman was critically injured when a tractor-trailer hit a car near the Dror junction on Route 4. The driver of the car and another passenger were lightly injured. According to police, the tractor-trailer was tailgating. The critically injured woman, who was in the rear seat of the car, was taken to Beilinson Hospital in Petah Tikva.

lit

Stonethrower shot in Nabulus

A Palestinian man who hurled stones at an IDF patrol jeep in Nabulus was shot and wounded by soldiers yesterday, the IDF spokesman said.

The man approached the vehicle and got very close, raising suspicion that he might be armed, military sources said.

The man was listed in satisfactory condition.

4 held in murder of alleged molester

Four Hebron residents, suspected of murdering Ashraf Salhavi, 21, whom they suspected of sexually molesting children, were arrested yesterday. Three of those arrested were parents of children who had been molested. Salhavi's bound, naked body was found on Monday.

lit

Autopsy set for Hamas detainee

An autopsy will be performed today on the body of Abed Harizat, the Hamas man who died Tuesday of a head wound suffered while under interrogation by the GSS. Harizat's family, which had originally opposed an autopsy, agreed yesterday to have it done. An outside pathologist will perform the autopsy.

lit

With great sorrow we mourn the loss of

RACHEL (RUTH) KARASH ז"ל

Beloved wife of **Moe Karash** - New York,
Mother of **Michael Karash** - Kedumim
Arlene Chertov - Efrat,
Miriam Bunin - New York

The Botzer and Livnot U'Lehibanot Family

Our dear mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and sister

ANNIE KAUFMAN ז"ל
(nee Potash)

formerly of Cape Town, South Africa,
has passed away.

The funeral will take place today, Thursday,
April 27, at 1:30 p.m. at the Savoyon Cemetery.

Mourning by:

Her sons and their families,
Harold, Edie, Talya, Ronnen, Efrat and
Dan-Ilan Kaufman
Philipp, Margalit, Nechama and **Chagit Kaufman**
Simmy, Renee, Gilad, Daniela and **Liat Kaufman**
Her brother and sister-in-law,
Dave and Judy Potash and family,
Stellenbosch, South Africa
Shiva at 15 Rehov Hatomer, Savoyon.

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to return

Rehab center
mental health

Tuesday,
Succo

Court orders Bakshi-Doron to hear woman whose husband was allowed a second wife

HERB KEINON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday ordered Chief Rabbi Eliahu Bakshi-Doron to give a hearing to a woman whose husband received permission from the Chief Rabbinate to marry another woman before she granted him a divorce.

In February, the High Court was petitioned on behalf of the woman, whose name can not be published, by Na'amat.

Eti Pipel, head of Na'amat's legal division, said the decision sets a positive precedent. From now on, she said, women whose husbands are given special dis-

pensation to marry a second wife will have the opportunity to have their cases heard by the chief rabbinates.

Bakshi-Doron, over the last two years, has allowed 24 men to take a second wife, mostly in cases where they were unable to deliver a writ of divorce (*get*) to their first wives.

Pipel said that the case before the court does not fall into this category, but is rather a case where the man want

ed a new wife because his current wife had diabetes and did not bear him a son. The two could not agree to terms of the divorce.

The decision was handed down by Justices Shlomo Levin, Yitzhak Zamir, and Gabriel Bach.

In her petition, Pipel said that Bakshi-Doron granted permission to the husband to marry, without ever hearing the woman's side of the story.

According to the Bible, men are permitted more than one

wife, although women are forbidden from having more than one husband.

In the 10th century, however, the Rabbi Gershom ben Yehuda (known as Rabbeinu Gershom) banned multiple wives. He provided one loophole, that in extreme cases a man could take another wife if he received the signature of 100 rabbis.

Pipel wrote that she does not believe such a document exists in this case, and that even if it does, she doubts that each rabbi looked into the case.

Rabin criticizes cabinet over lack of attention to immigrants

BATSHEVA TSUR

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin took the unusual step of chiding his ministers yesterday for failing to pay attention to the needs and feelings of the new immigrants who do not speak Hebrew.

Rabin's ire was triggered by the failure to place full-page advertisements in the Russian-language and other foreign-language papers about the state events taking place today throughout the country to mark Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day.

Dozens of commemorative events are due to be held with the participation of ministers, High Court justices and other public figures.

The commemorative events

were prominently advertised in the Hebrew press.

The prime minister also took to task the head of the Government Press Office whose duty it is to inform the public of such events. He was instructed to correct the situation immediately.

At the same time, Rabin appealed to Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni to allocate appropriate sums for the operation of the immigrant radio wavelength, Reka, and to pay the journalists working there a reasonable salary.

Referring to the cabinet decision of October 1993 to publish all relevant state-conveyed infor-

mation in languages of new immigrants, Rabin said that a follow-up by his director-general, Shimon Sheves, had revealed that this was not being done.

With the exception of the Absorption Ministry and the Road Safety Authority, Rabin said, little attention was being paid to the needs of the non-Hebrew speaking immigrants by the authorities.

There is a NIS 1,500,000 budget for this purpose, he said, but not even this budget has been used.

This special budget is only 2 percent of the national budget for government publications, while the new immigrants constitute some 10 percent of the population, Rabin pointed out.

Alisa Flatow's sister to return

THE sister of an American student killed in the April 9 Kfar Darom suicide bombing is returning to Israel and plans to meet the recipients of her sister's organs, her father said Tuesday.

Stephen Flatow said he is not worried about his 18-year-old daughter Gail's return to Israel, where she had been studying at a Jerusalem religious school since October.

"I'm confident about her trip," said Flatow, 46, of West Orange, N.J., in a telephone interview. "These [attacks] happen in Oklahoma City, in New York City, in Tel Aviv, and in Kfar Darom. The message is, you don't give in to terrorism."

Six Israelis received organ transplants from Alisa Flatow, 20, a Brandeis University junior. Seven soldiers were also killed in the attack. Gail returned to the US for her sister's burial and for Passover.

Flatow said Gail now wants to meet the organ recipients to see how "Alisa was able to give people some hope ... to see what her death resulted in."

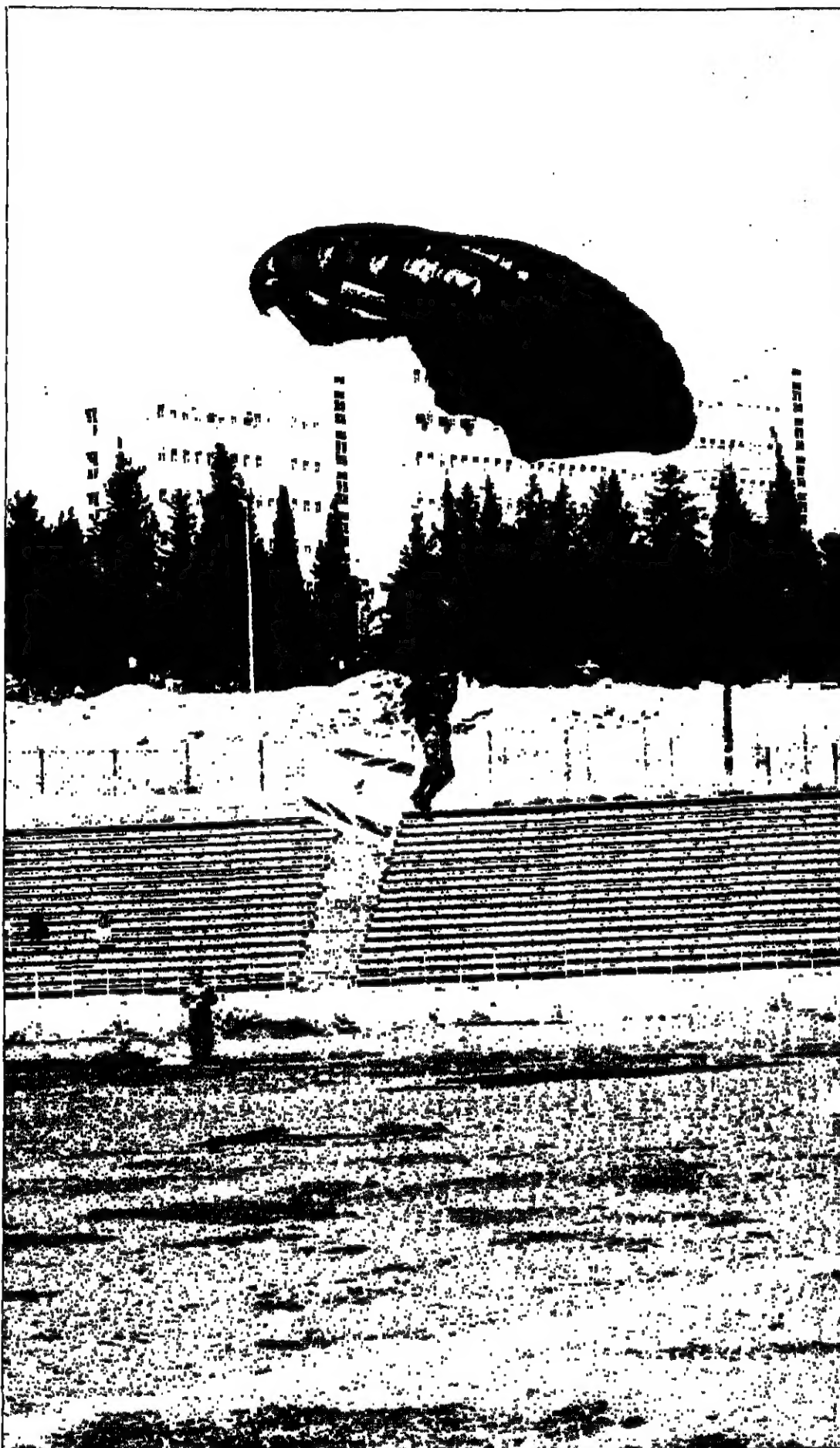
Gail will return in the next few weeks and stay through June to complete her one-year program of study, he said.

Of the six organ recipients, two have died and the other four are still recovering in hospitals.

"Of course we want to meet her sister," said Tzipi Rahamin, whose cousin Shabtai Rahamin, 23, remains in Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital, Ein Kerem after a successful liver transplant. "We are delighted and we want to thank them for everything they've done."

Doctors at Sheba Hospital in Tel Hashomer said they don't usually allow donor families to meet recipients, but they aren't ruling out a visit in this case. Patient Malka Nir, 48, received one of Alisa's lungs.

The other recovering patients are Jacob Salinas, 56, who received Alisa's heart, and Arye Mendelson, 43, who got a kidney. Her corpse went to Soroka Hospital's eye bank. (AP)



An IDF skydiver makes a practice landing yesterday in Givat Ram stadium of Hebrew University in Jerusalem in preparation for Independence Day festivities. (Efraim Kilshuk)

Ex-Zim worker wins suit against company

A FORMER Zim union leader yesterday won a private criminal suit in Haifa District Court against the Zim Steamship Co. and a Zim official he accused of blackmail.

Ori Zuckerman, a former member of the workers' committee, charged that he had been forced to resign because Zim's management had blackmailed him. Zuckerman filed a private criminal complaint, after police decided not to press charges because of lack of evidence.

Zuckerman had maintained that he was forced to leave his union post in 1988 after managing director Mati Morgenstern had threatened to release compromising photographs of him and his mistress, taken by private detectives hired by Zim management.

Judge Micha Lindenstrauss acquitted all of the defendants except for Uri Sabirsky, Zim's general services manager. He noted that Morgenstern had tried to settle the dispute out of court, but that Sabirsky, Zuckerman's direct boss was the main initiator and implementer in the affair. (Him)

Shmulevitz's testimony focuses on yeshiva

CROSS-EXAMINATION of prosecution witness Ya'acov Shmulevitz in the trial of former interior minister Aryeh Deri focused yesterday on the relationship between a yeshiva run by Deri associates and a rehabilitation center they established.

Deri's attorney Dan Avi-Yitzhak questioned Shmulevitz on the sale of the Lev Benim Yeshiva building to the Prisoner Rehabilitation Center.

Avi-Yitzhak suggested during the session at Jerusalem District Court that the building was intended to house released prisoners.

He tried to show that the building was evacuated by the yeshiva, and plans to return only came up six months later.

At that stage it was decided that it would be a good idea to integrate yeshiva students and former prisoners together in a living environment, he said.

Under direct examination, Shmulevitz, who established the center, said the sale of the yeshiva building to the center was one of the ways to channel government funds to the yeshiva.

Shmulevitz, Deri and the three other co-defendants - Aryeh and Moshe Weinberg, and Yom-Tov Rubin - served in different administrative positions at the yeshiva. (Him)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Torahs stolen in Arad

Thieves broke into the main Ashkenazi synagogue in Arad yesterday and stole three Torah scrolls valued at NIS 250,000.

The theft was noticed yesterday afternoon by the *gabai* of the synagogue, who was shocked to see that the synagogue had been partially ransacked. Police believe that the thieves will try to sell the scrolls abroad. (Amir Rozenblit)

Tel Aviv casino raided

Police raided another Tel Aviv casino on Tuesday night, arresting 24 people, including dealers and gamblers.

The dealers included four British citizens, one Bulgarian, and one South African. Police released all those arrested except for the casino owner, a 47-year-old Ramat Gan resident. Three roulette and two black jack tables were seized. (Him)

Bible quiz begins next Wednesday

Yohan Ben-Atar, 17, will represent Morocco's Jewish community at the World Diaspora Bible Quiz, which will be held on Wednesday in Rosh Ha'ayin.

The winners of the competition will go on to compete in the finals on Thursday, Independence Day.

It will be the first time a youth from Morocco will participate in the competition, which includes 50 competing youths from around the world. Representatives from Latvia and Slovakia will also compete for the first time.

The youngest participant is 13-year-old Goldi Katz from

Winning cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapais daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the nine of spades, eight of hearts, eight of diamonds, and seven of clubs.

Company fined for false advertising for herbal teas

JUDY SIEGEL

A BEIT Shemesh company that made medicinal claims for its tea products was fined NIS 21,000 by Tel Aviv Magistrates' Court yesterday, following a complaint by the Health Ministry.

The court fined Natural Alternative Medicine Institute and its manager, Yitzhak Gvili, for claiming that a food product can treat a medical condition. The company advertised and sold herbal teas that it claimed reduced blood sugar and cholesterol levels, and other herbal teas claimed to "solve" the problem of angina pectoris (chest pains), weight gain, and tiredness.

The company and Gvili were found guilty of six violations and

given the alternative of paying a NIS 21,000 fine or spending 20 days in prison. They also were required to post a NIS 96,000 bond committing themselves not to repeat the violation during the next three years.

According to the law, only registered drugs may make medical claims.

Meanwhile, the Health Ministry is deciding what to do about advertising for Le Patch, a transdermal patch which claims to promote speedy metabolism and weight loss. The ministry said the seaweed in the patches has no connection to weight loss, and that the patch could be "useful" only in "reminding people who wear it to eat less."

Rehab centers will evaluate mental health of IDF disabled

SEVERAL centers to evaluate the emotional disability of IDF disabled were established in 1994. Col. (res.) Chico Oren, head of the Defense Ministry's rehabilitation branch, said yesterday.

Previously, he said, the disabled were only entitled to medical examinations. Now, psychological and psychiatric examinations are also available.

"We are in an experimental year," Oren said. "If there are no surprises, this tool will become part of our regular service."

He said the goal of the examinations is to determine the benefits to which the disabled person is entitled.

Such examinations are available at Ichilov, Sheba and Rambam hospitals, the Ramat Chen

Medical Center and the Beersheba Mental Health Center.

Oren conceded that the centers were established after the rehabilitation branch received numerous complaints from IDF disabled who said they were not receiving the services to which they were entitled.

He noted that last year, the branch assisted 85,395 people, an increase of 4.2 percent over 1993, with 66,656 of them IDF disabled. It also assisted 18,738 bereaved families, a decrease of 1.3 percent. The branch's 1995 budget is \$1.5 billion, a 3 percent increase over 1994.

Oren said there has been a 25 percent increase in the number of IDF disabled over the last five years, while the number of bereaved families had decreased by 6 percent. (Him)

Elta wins prize for ingenuity

ALON PINKAS

WORKERS at Elta, an Israel Aircraft Industry subsidiary, were awarded a defense ministry prize for "creative thinking and technological ingenuity" at a ceremony yesterday.

The prize, awarded every year by the Defense Ministry's office of research, development of military systems, and technological infrastructure, was the highest of five awards given.

"You are the pillar of fire of creative thinking, leading the entire research and development community," Uzi Eliam, head of the re-

search office, said.

The component, system, project, or invention for which the prize was awarded has not been disclosed.

A second prize was awarded to a research office worker for his contribution to the development of several projects, and three citations for excellence were awarded jointly to the workers of Elita and the research office, the workers of the research office for an "original idea that may develop into a weapons system," and to the workers at Ramat (another IAI subsidiary) for developing "a system already proven in battle."

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Rwandans flee amid chaos

BUTARE (AP) - More than 1,000 refugees evicted from a camp in southwest Rwanda remained imprisoned in an overcrowded bank building for a second day yesterday. Another 600 resisted eviction from a school compound.

Stragglers trudged along Rwanda's roads, but aid workers said most of the more than 200,000 refugees evicted from their camps in the southwest have reached their home villages.

Rwandan soldiers and UN troops urged the last 600 holdouts at Kibeho camp to leave the school compound where they took refuge Saturday when soldiers fired on the camp.

At least 2,000 people were killed at Kibeho. Many of the victims, mostly women and children, were trampled to death.

The refugees are Hutus, members of the ethnic majority blamed for last year's slaughter of 500,000 men, women and children. Most victims were Tutsis who were shot, hacked and clubbed to death by Hutu militias and, in many cases, former friends and neighbors.

The government considered the displaced camps in the southwest to be hotbeds of militia activity. Last week, it began forcing the refugees to return home.

Lt. Kent Page, the UN military spokesman in Kigali, said at least nine refugees were killed when they returned to their villages.

In Nsunga, a hillside farming community 10 miles from Butare, 10 returnees were promptly jailed on charges they bludgeoned their neighbors to death last year.

More than a thousand refugees have been imprisoned in a cramped bank building in the village of Ngenda, 40 kilometers (25 miles) south of the capital, Kigali. Page could not say if the refugees were from Ngenda or imprisoned as they passed through.

In Butare, southwest of the capital, townspeople emerged from their homes Tuesday to slap, stone and spit at a column of hundreds of refugees beginning a journey on foot to their distant homes.

UN officials fear their homecoming reception will be far more hostile.

"The government is conscious of the fact that there is going to be a huge problem in terms of food and water," UN special envoy Shaharyar Khan said Tuesday in Kigali. "There is also the question of hostility."

Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, said Butare, the first destination of at least 60,000 refugees who fled Kibeho, was nearly empty of refugees yesterday. "The people have moved on," Wilkinson said.



Rwandan Hutu refugees wait in a bus yesterday to be transported by the UN from a transit station in Butare in the southwestern part of the country to their home districts near Kigali. (AP)

2nd bomb suspect may be dead

FEDERAL agents are investigating whether the second suspect in the deadly Oklahoma City blast was killed when the two-ton bomb went off, an official source said yesterday.

"It's an active theory," a law enforcement source said. "That is why they are so closely examining pictures from the area - he may have got caught by the explosion."

The body count reached 98 yesterday as investigators charged two brothers with conspiracy. Officials now believe only five more children may be lost in the bombed-out wreckage of the federal office building, the Medical Examiner's Office said.

Nichols brothers James, 41, and Terry, 40, previously held as witnesses, have been charged as conspirators with Timothy McVeigh in the construction of explosive devices in Michigan.

McVeigh, 27, remained the only person arrested in the actual bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah federal building. He is not charged in the Michigan case, and the Nichols brothers are not charged in the Oklahoma bombing.

It is routine in bombings to see whether the bomber was killed in a blast, but said in this case, the law enforcement source said, "un-identifiable body parts and heavy damage all around the area has made it more difficult to be certain."

Only one person - Gulf War veteran Timothy McVeigh - has been directly charged in the blast, which exploded a week ago, almost demolishing a nine-floor federal building. A surveillance camera's tape - damaged by the blast - is being scrutinized because it may show the truck that carried the bomb and the suspects.

The source said publicity about a second suspect has been so intense it would be very difficult for the man to move around in public. Federal authorities issued a new sketch of

News agencies
OKLAHOMA CITY

the dark-haired, tattooed man, this time showing him in a baseball cap.

"Either he doesn't know anybody or he's dead, is what some of are speculating," said the source.

McVeigh, 27, was being held in a maximum security prison on the outskirts of Oklahoma City.

Several media reports yesterday said investigators found traces of ammonium nitrate, an ingredient of fertilizer, on McVeigh's clothing and in his car. Experts believe the bomb was made primarily of fertilizer and fuel oil.

McVeigh was listed as a co-conspirator in federal charges filed in Michigan against farming brothers James and Terry Nichols.

The charges were not linked to the Oklahoma bombing.

CNN reported that McVeigh, a former soldier, was refusing to speak to authorities, claiming he was a political prisoner. It said McVeigh would give only his name, rank and Army serial number - the information a prisoner of war gives his captors.

Oldest Briton dies at 108

ABERDARE, Wales (Reuters) - Britain's oldest man, a former grocery salesman who as a soldier survived some of the bloodiest battles of World War One, has died aged 108, his family said yesterday.

Born at Lampeter, in the Welsh county of Dyfed, on August 19, 1886, David Davies had lived for the last six years in a nursing home in the Welsh town of Aberdare where he died.

He was a grandfather of four and great-grandfather of eight. His wife died 27 years ago. Davies' longevity warranted an entry in the Guinness Book of Records and he was granted the freedom of Aberdare, a civic honor.

Chirac talks tough about illegal immigration

PARIS (AP) - Conservative presidential candidate Jacques Chirac said yesterday he empathizes with "the doubts and worries" of far-right voters, and talked tough about illegal immigration, one of their deepest concerns.

To win his runoff May 7 against Socialist Lionel Jospin, Chirac needs some support from far-rightists who gave the anti-immigrant National Front a record 15 percent of the votes in Sunday's first round. His newly hard-line rhetoric on security and immigration appears aimed at them.

"France must be without inhibitions and without weakness" in fighting illegal immigration, Chirac said in a radio interview.

He said a new treaty easing border controls among seven European countries should be overhauled if it proved to encourage illegal immigration.

Jospin edged Chirac in the first round with 23.3 percent of the votes to 20.8 percent. Nearly 40

percent of the voters supported fringe parties to the left and right of the mainstream, including 20 percent for National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen and another nationalist candidate who shared many of his views.

A poll released yesterday by the BVA polling firm gave Chirac 35 percent of the votes in the runoff, but said one-fifth of the 1,000 voters surveyed were indecisive. The poll's margin of error was between 2 and 3 percent.

Jospin, a former education minister, supports continued controls on immigration, but contends that some measures adopted by the conservative government over the past two years went too far.

A leading Chirac supporter, Jean-Antoine Giansily, yesterday branded Jospin "the candidate of immigration" and accused him of "capitulating" as education minister when he balked at banning girls from wearing Islamic headscarves at public schools.

Serbs pressure UN; war crimes trial starts

SARAJEVO (AP) - Bosnian Serbs were steadfast yesterday in their opposition to government officials using Sarajevo's airport, warning that UN fuel shipments could be cut off.

UN negotiator John Wright said progress had been made during talks yesterday with Serbs. But a Serb negotiator made clear that Serbs would continue to insist that officials of Bosnia's Muslim-led government officials be banned from all UN flights.

In The Hague, the first international war crimes tribunal since World War II opened. A Bosnian Serb pleaded innocent to charges of crimes against humanity.

"I plead not guilty, and I did not commit any of these crimes," said Dusan Tadic from behind a bullet-proof glass shield at the Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal. Tadic, charged with murder, rape and other atrocities in Serb-held Bosnia in 1992, is the first defendant to be tried for war crimes since the Tokyo and Nuremberg trials of the 1940s.

His case - which includes charges of forcing a prisoner to bite off another's testicle - is being heard by a three-judge panel at the UN-sponsored Yugoslav War Crimes Tribunal.

The United Nations depends on the airport for its humanitarian airlift and its peacekeepers' fuel supplies, which are critically low and could run out within a week.

Earlier, UN spokesman Alexander Ivanko in Sarajevo told reporters the United Nations hoped to reach agreement about exactly who might use the airport. The United Nations also will be seeking safety guarantees in order to resume the humanitarian airlift, suspended since April 8.

Last weekend the Serbs blocked US and German diplomats from entering Sarajevo from the airport, and they have refused to guarantee they won't shoot at airplanes carrying civilians.

On Tuesday, Serbs denied security guarantees to all fuel convoys, leaving the airport as the only lifeline for UN troops in Sarajevo.

"One thing is for sure, Muslim officials will not be able to use the airport... in future," Serb negotiator Momo Mandic said yesterday. "It can only be used for UN staff." He charged government officials were lobbying abroad for weapons and funds.

He warned that Serbs, whose guns can target all traffic in and out of Sarajevo, would cut off all fuel supplies destined for the United Nations.

The Serbs are apparently reacting to UN moves to isolate the Bosnian Serbs for refusing to go along with a peace plan that leaves them with 49 percent of Bosnia. They now hold about two-thirds of the country.

The Serbs seem less likely than ever to compromise. Their top leaders, Radovan Karadzic and Gen. Ratko Mladic, were named by a war crimes tribunal on Monday as suspects.

The so-called Bosnian Serb Information Ministry said it did not recognize the court's authority and accused it of bias.

The Serbs have long been angered that some Bosnian government passport-holders have been able to use UN flights.

The United Nations says that with few exceptions, civilians are not covered under a strict interpretation of a 1992 agreement under which it controls the airport.

Cultists nabbed in Tokyo

TOKYO (AP) - Five years ago, chemist Masami Tsuchiya was on his way to becoming a part of Japan's scientific elite. Instead, he chose to devote his talents to a doomsday cult now suspected in a deadly gas attack.

Yesterday, he was in jail. Tsuchiya's dramatic arrest - he was found hiding in an underground compartment at the Aum Shinri Kyo cult's Mount Fuji commune - could be a breakthrough for police investigating the March 20 attack on Tokyo's subways.

Tsuchiya was in charge of the cult's extensive experiments with chemicals and its research into the nerve gas sarin, which was used in the subway attack.

Also arrested was Seiichi Endo, another cult leader believed to be a potential key to determining whether Aum was involved in the subway terror, which left 12 dead and sickened 5,500 others.

Tsuchiya and Endo, who before joining Aum was a viral and genetics researcher, were both arrested for allegedly "harboring escaping criminals." Further details of the charges were not immediately available.

The captures capped one of the most intense days of police crackdowns on the cult yet, involving more than 1,300 officers and raids on 88 offices, yoga centers, communes and other cult facilities.

Aum leaders have repeatedly denied any connection with the

subway attack or a series of other incidents that have followed.

But daily searches of the Mount Fuji commune over the past month have uncovered tons of chemicals and equipment that could have been used to produce the gas.

Police were believed still looking for the cult's founder, self-proclaimed messiah Shoko Asahara, who has been in hiding since the subway killings.

They got a taste of Asahara's ire yesterday, however, as the enigmatic guru's latest book went on sale. In it, Asahara warned of a new calamity unless police pull back.

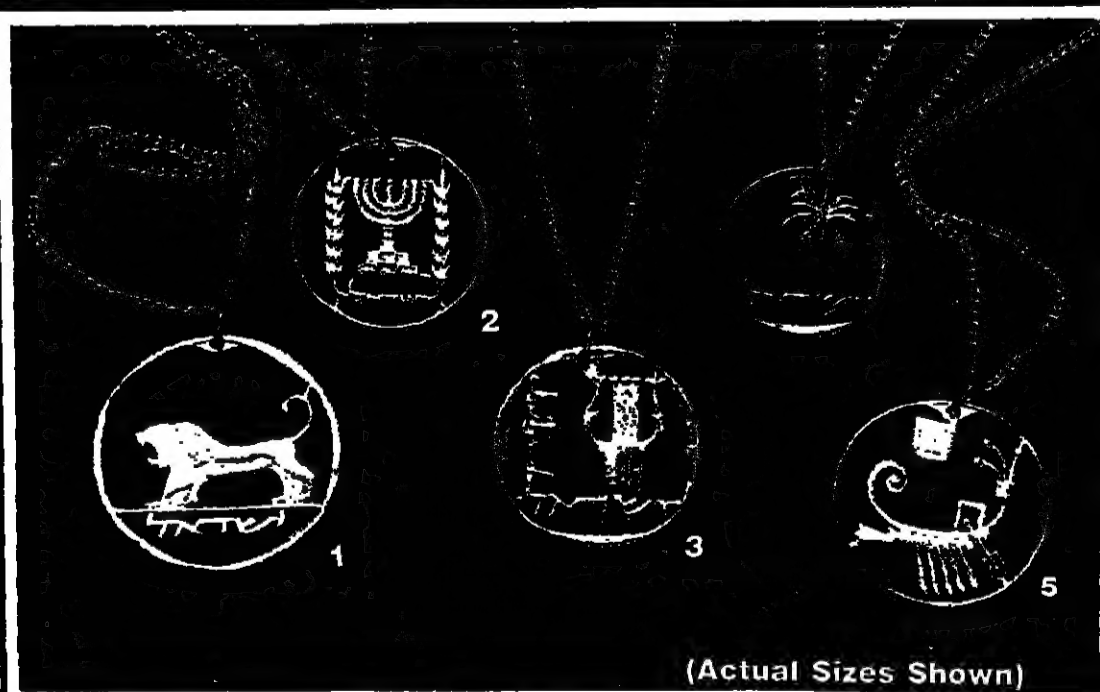
"The authorities are unjustly arresting our stoic disciples and doing things they certainly shouldn't," Asahara wrote in the hastily prepared book. "This is escalating, and will certainly cause the gods to explode with anger."

"Hell awaits" those who support the crackdown, he warned. In the book, "The Sadness of a Dead Japan," Asahara repeated that he is gravely ill. He attributed his condition to alleged biological weapon attacks on him and his followers by the US military.

He denied the cult's involvement in any acts of violence, and called the police actions "unconstitutional and unjust."

Tsuchiya, who completed postgraduate studies in chemistry at one of Japan's most prestigious universities, had appeared in earlier books by Asahara.

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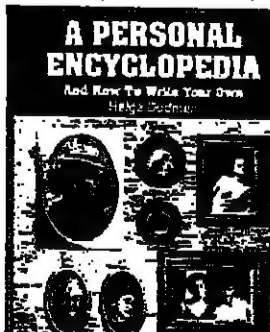
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Fifty years later

FOR decades, both friends and foes have been advising Jews to forget the Holocaust. Let the past die or it will kill you, say the hostile. And the more outspoken have turned Holocaust-denial into the modern version of the antisemitic blood libel.

Yet, a half-century after the liberation of the death camps, Jews refuse to forget. If anything, Jewish preoccupation with the Holocaust is greater than ever.

The reason is difficult to fathom. Nothing can ameliorate the trauma of the Holocaust, nor can anything compensate for it. But the establishment of Jewish sovereignty in Israel was expected to so engage the national vigor that there would be little emotional energy left for remembrance.

But now, in one of the least expected developments of our time, Israeli-born generations are fiercely interested in exploring how and why a third of the Jewish people was annihilated by what was considered the enlightened world's most advanced society; and young Jews view the Holocaust as an inseparable part of their lives.

Perhaps a likely explanation for this phenomenon is that it is difficult to discern the transfor-

mation in human conduct which the end of the war promised. To be sure, the Nazi regime was destroyed, and Western Europe is a benign, democratic union. And the ruthless, murderous Soviet empire has collapsed.

But brutal wars still rage on the continent, genocidal wars have bled Asia and Africa, and the Middle East is not only engaged in an insane arms race, but is threatened by Islamic militancy and the plague of terrorism. Perhaps most disturbingly, antisemitism, rendered disreputable for a few short years by the Holocaust, is again rampant, often masquerading as anti-Zionism. The assumption that the destruction of fascism would end all wars, and the hope that the Holocaust would never happen again are far more tenuous now than they were 50 years ago.

Yet it is essential to remember not only the heroism and martyrdom of the Holocaust, but the miraculous events since then. The establishment of Israel, its victories over would-be destroyers, the aliyah and redemption of millions of Jews, and the economic and military strength of the Jewish nation are developments which 50 years ago seemed like wild fantasies. It may be salutary to view current dangers in the mirror of these years. It should reinforce Israel's faith in its ability to meet all challenges.

Rabin's decision time

PRIME Minister Yitzhak Rabin has often been called a Hamlet, a man who has trouble making up his mind. With the July 1 deadline for concluding negotiations on the second phase of the Oslo agreement getting closer, he may not be able to afford the luxury of indecision.

He is being urged by the Palestinians, the US and his own left wing to proceed with the withdrawal of the army from the Arab population centers in Judea and Samaria, or else Israel's "peace partner" Yasser Arafat will lose both credibility and power. He is also being warned that unless the closure on the territories is lifted completely and permanently, growing instability, particularly in Gaza, will threaten the very existence of the Palestinian Authority. The only possible alternative seems to be paying the PA for the wages lost by Palestinian laborers as a result of the closure.

Rabin's dilemma is real enough. He is all too aware of the dangers of withdrawal in Judea and Samaria. According to his own general in the Gaza area, OC Southern Command Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, the "Gaza and Jericho First" experiment has failed.

The hopes that an orderly transfer of power to the Palestinians would result in the curbing of terrorism and close cooperation between the PA and Israel have not materialized. As Mofaz has put it, "Arafat has failed, failed, failed." Terrorism has doubled and tripled, and except for relatively insignificant information exchanges between the PA's security services and their Israeli counterparts, there is little cooperation.

Gaza and Jericho have become havens, training camps, and arsenals for terrorists. The more active ones are Islamic groups, but the recent apprehension of Fatah operatives by the General Security Service exposed the fact that, while Fatah has avoided attacks on Israelis in the past year, it is still killing "collaborators." Yet

despite the failure of the Gaza-Jericho experiment, it is idle to talk of reversing the situation - a solution suggested last year as an option if the test failed. The international community now accepts the PA as a budding government of a sovereign state. To enter Gaza would cause serious international repercussions.

The projected withdrawal from Judea and Samaria is just as irreversible. Any vacuum left by the Israeli army will immediately be filled by the PA, and the areas recognized as Palestinian territory by the world. To allow the Arab towns of Judea and Samaria, virtually all of which are close to Jewish communities inside the Green Line, to become terrorist bases like Gaza and Jericho is to expose large sections of Israel to a mortal threat.

To resolve this problem, Rabin seems to rely on "separation," a euphemism for closure. Only a few licensed Palestinian workers would be allowed to enter Israel, while various electronic fences and roadblocks would keep terrorists out. To compensate for the loss of income by the tens of thousands of Palestinians, Israel would compensate the PA with an amount equivalent to their salary. "Peace is not cheap," as Rabin put it to the cabinet yesterday.

To suppose that this kind of subsidy, even if it is used strictly to create jobs in the territories, will prevent the "deepening resentment for Israel" which Chief of the General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak believes the closure causes, is to overestimate the power of money and underestimate the intensity of Arab hostility.

But the chances of these subsidies reaching the workers are slim. The corruption of the PA is so widespread that the money will more likely end in the pockets of a few high officials, or spent on Arafat's security forces. There must be better ways to spend the Israeli taxpayers' hard-earned shekels.

OLEG

And terror shall reign

TWO weeks before the Oklahoma atrocity, 300 of the world's most fanatical Moslem terrorist chieftains from 80 countries gathered in Khartoum for a "spiritual reunion."

At the lavish opening reception in the Palace of Friendship, Western intelligence observers recognized at least 60 of the world's most dangerous fundamentalist chiefs - including PLO and Shi'ite inventors of the notorious car bomb.

Despite its billing as a prayer meeting, this rogues' assembly made Mafia-style "Murder Inc." gatherings in the America of the 1920s and 1930s look like kindergarten outings.

With the blessing of Sudan's ruler, Omar Hassan al-Bashir, and the ideologue Dr. Hassan al-Turabi, the "Khameini of Khartoum," the delegates set out to coordinate future global terror acts. Chosen guests were summoned upstairs to the heavily guarded "Seventh Bureau" on the fifth floor of the palace.

As detailed by the *Watan Al-Arabi* Paris weekly, Turabi then spelled out the real message of the "Conference of Extremists" to the masters of terror: the downfall of all non-fundamentalist governments - including Moslem states - by bombing and political assassination.

Turabi's master plan follows the teaching of Ayatollah Khomeini. Moslems everywhere, in their mosques, universities and communities, are to be recruited as Allah's 20th-century warriors.

One honored visitor on the fifth floor was a US citizen, Akbar Mohammed, who declared himself not only the representative of the Umat al-Islam movement. As he told *Watan Al-Arabi*: "We are the American Hizbullah." The claim was substantiated by the man at his side, Sheikh Na'im Kassem, Lebanon's second-ranking Hizbullah commander.

Adel Hussein, a leading Egyptian opposition leader, warned the rest of the world in the Paris weekly: "We want you to know that we Moslems are awakening to a new dawn." This has become painfully clear to President Mubarak, who has been unable to prevent acts of terror not only against his security services, police and government officials, but also against Western tourists.

CIA observers have discovered that some of the \$120 million an-

URI DAN
DENNIS EISENBERG

nual subsidy paid by Teheran to support the international fundamentalist terror network reaches the US. Lavish sums have been distributed to Moslem "charitable and social" organizations in New York, in areas like Brooklyn where there are heavy concentrations of Moslem citizens. Other Moslem groups across the US, in cities like Chicago, have received similar financing.

AMONG WESTERN observers, a sharp pair of expert eyes spotted an innocuous-looking figure who spent an inordinately long time closeted in the luxuriously Persian-carpeted confines of Suite 7.

A 'spiritual gathering' in Khartoum plotted the downfall of all non-fundamentalist governments

The coded message, "Imad Mughniyeh is en route from here to Beirut via Riyadh in three days' time," caused a buzz of intense excitement at FBI headquarters. Within hours, its elite agents were speeding across the Atlantic toward Saudi Arabia, where they planned to arrest Mughniyeh and fly him to the US to answer charges of having murdered Americans.

Mughniyeh shuns all publicity. Unlike other terrorist chieftains such as Yasser Arafat, Abu Nidal, Ahmed Jibril, and George Habash, he operates out of the spotlight. Considered the father of car-bomb terrorism, Mughniyeh is ranked by the FBI as the most dangerous terrorist alive. He is believed to have been behind the bombing of the Israeli Embassy in London last summer.

He also masterminded the car-bombing operation that killed 241 American Marines in Beirut in 1983, and organized the 1985 hijacking of a TWA plane flying between Athens and Rome, during which Robert Dean Stethem, an American diver, was brutally murdered.

Mughniyeh was also Hizbullah security chief in Lebanon, responsible for holding American

hostages in captivity in the 1980s. He was secretly indicted for so doing by a US court.

American law enforcement officers have sworn to bring him to justice. But to their astonishment and that of Secretary of State Christopher, the Saudis foiled FBI plans to grab Mughniyeh at Riyadh airport by refusing to let his plane land there. The flight continued to Beirut, where Mughniyeh disappeared. The frustrated FBI men had to return empty-handed to the US. To add insult to injury, the Saudis haven't even responded to the crescendo of protests from Washington.

In contrast, Mubarak showed no hesitation over arresting another Moslem terrorist, Abu Halima, who sought asylum in Cairo after fleeing from the US. The Egyptian secret police obligingly "shish-kebabs" Halima - as they call the process in Cairo - to extract a confession to the murder of Rabbi Meir Kahane in New York, and to his role in the bombing of New York's World Trade Center. He was then returned to the US to face trial.

Nor did authorities in another Moslem country, Pakistan, object when US agents grabbed Ramzi Youssef, another Moslem terrorist sheltering in Karachi, and flew him to the US to stand trial for the same crimes. In the past few days, Youssef has also been charged for attempting to bomb American airliners.

American anger at Saudi Arabia is understandable. After all, the US saved its royal rulers in Riyadh when Saddam Hussein occupied Kuwait.

Yet the White House should know better. Riyadh's policy has always been to pay protection money to every bully-boy terrorist leader in the Middle East. Its kings "donated" hundreds of millions of dollars to Arafat for decades to prevent PLO actions in their back yard. Today, the Saudis directly finance Hamas killers at their Amman HQ.

The bottom line of the Mughniyeh episode is simple: To keep an international car-bomb killer in business, the Saudis don't give a fig about failing to honor an elementary obligation to their closest ally, the United States.

The writers are authors of *The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East*.

Spilt soup

D. HENRY SATTLER

OFFICIALLY, World War II was over. But for those who had survived the camps, the ordeal went on.

A survivor of the Krakow-Plaszow camp, then of Auschwitz and finally Dachau, I was on a cattle train transporting us to the Bavarian Alps, where we were to be shot. It was April 30, 1945.

At the little town of Poing, the stationmaster came over and said something to the SS officer in charge of the train. Apparently a bridge had been bombed, and we couldn't go on. The Americans were near. At this news, most of our SS guards began to flee.

We watched through a tiny window covered by barbed wire. The train was sealed from the outside, and we had been without food or water for two weeks, apart from a few drops of rain licked off the wagon walls.

Many survivors were very sick and exhausted. Many already lay dead on the wagon floor.

Then suddenly the doors were unsealed, and we saw some German organization - the Red Cross, perhaps - approaching with kettles of hot soup. There were at least 100 cattle cars, and those in the first and second had already had their soup. I was in the third car, waiting with bated breath.

We hadn't eaten in two weeks. Horrified, we watched our first meal drain away.

Suddenly Allied planes appeared in the sky. Flying low, they machine-gunned the train - and the soup kettles. Some people were killed, others badly wounded. We gazed at the spilt soup with horror.

The train began to move out slowly. Trains carrying the retreating German Army had priority, and we would go perhaps half a mile, then stand still for several hours. We were glad the Allies were close, but when would our ordeal end? No one knew.

A little further on, we had been standing in the town of Seeshaupt for many hours, when on the horizon we saw a long line of moving trucks: a US Army convoy. Panicked, the rest of our SS guards fled into the nearest forest, tearing SS insignia off their uniforms as they went. Only a few Hungarian SS volunteers remained.

Our wagons were finally unsealed. The Americans planned POW signs onto the Hungarians, and led them off to a POW camp.

MY WAGON had originally held 120 prisoners. Nineteen were left barely alive. I was taken to a hospital in Feldafing, on the other side of Lake Starnberg.

I weighed about 31 kg. The US Army doctor who examined me expressed surprise that I was still alive. Many survivors died after the liberation, from sickness, sheer exhaustion, or a sudden change in diet.

The American soldiers, to whom the survivors looked like skeletons covered with thin, gray skin, had pity on their faces and tears in their eyes. They tried to help us any way they could. Some fed us their army rations of pork and beans.

After so many years of near-starvation, such kindness could kill. Many survivors who had managed to cheat the gas chambers and crematoria fell victim to their weakened digestive tracts.

But I was a teenager, and of healthy stock. In three months, I could walk again.

Shortly after my discharge from hospital, Feldafing Camp was visited by generals Dwight D. Eisenhower and George Patton, who were touring displaced persons' camps in the so-called American Zone of Occupation.

I was one of only two survivors in the camp who could speak English fluently. The other was Erwin Tichauer, now a professor at New York University. We were asked to translate the generals' enquiries to the survivors, and translate the replies back. Photographs from that time show Tichauer and myself at these unexpected roles.

Of my family, I have just one photograph. It shows my father Samuel, my mother Felicia, my brother Michael and several aunts, uncles and cousins enjoying a vacation at Zawoja, south of Cracow. All of them were killed by the Nazis.

The writer lives in New Jersey.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

MORE ON LETTY COTTIN POGREBIN

Sir, - Is Letty Cottin Pogrebin a "pro-PLO activist," as your March 10 editorial asserted? Or is such a characterization "slanderous" as Martin J. Gidron contends (*Letters*, March 23)? And is Gidron correct when he claims that Pogrebin's most recent book demonstrates her commitment to fighting "antisemitism and reflexive Israel-haters"? Pogrebin's record speaks for itself. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the New Jewish Agenda, an openly pro-PLO organization. (An American Jewish Committee study of Agenda concluded: "Although NJA policies and platforms speak of a commitment 'to the existence of Israel,' there is a paucity of literature and activities that would reflect such commitment.") She is an "endorser" of the Jewish Peace Lobby, another pro-PLO group, which was established at the suggestion of Yasser Arafat for the purpose of lobbying in Washington on behalf of PLO statehood. Pogrebin has said that the "plight" of the Palestinian Arabs is similar to the suffering of the Jewish slaves in ancient Egypt (*Long Island Jewish World*, April 10-16, 1992). She has also compared the Arabs to the Soviet Jewish refugees of the 1970s (*Moment*, June 1990). Writing in *Tikkun* (November-December 1993), Pogrebin demanded that Israel agree to "compromise on Jerusalem" through a system of "shared control" of the city with the PLO.

As for Pogrebin's book, *Deborah, Golda and Me*, which Gidron found so impressive, let it be noted that in its pages, Pogrebin writes: "On feminist ideology, I often feel more in tune with the Palestinians than with my Jewish sisters" (p. 61); "Palestine must exist in order for Israel to exist" (p. 376); and she describes how she and her friends "speculated" with PLO supporter Hanna Siniara "about the positive consequences of the intifada... if Palestinian violence remained limited to stone throwing, it would provide daily proof that the status quo is intolerable... It would force Jews and others to bury the illusion that everything is okay in this corner of the world..." (p. 349).

Pogrebin's book also contains some fascinating hints as to the source of her pro-Arab attitudes. The book brims with hostile remarks about her father, whom she describes as a pro-Israel activist. "When I needed my father, he was taking care of his other baby, his favored child [Israel]," she wrote (p. 166). She even went so far as to refrain from having her infant sons circumcised because "I did not want those I loved to be covenanted in the faith of the father who betrayed me" (p. 45).

HERBERT ZWEIBON,
Chairman,
Americans For a Safe Israel,
New York.

LITERAL TRANSLATION

Sir, - The *Jerusalem Post* translated Minister Sarid's comment regarding Netzarim being an *etzem b'garon* as a bone in the throat (April 9). The next day, Oleg's caricature carried the caption "We have to get rid of this bone in our throat" (April 10).

The staff of *The Jerusalem Post* must take care not to translate expressions, idioms, sayings, etc., word for word. There is no such expression in English as "a bone in our throat." The English equivalent for *etzem b'garon* is "a thorn in our side" or, to use the Biblical expression, "a thorn in the flesh."

ARI KERNERMAN

Tel Aviv. The *Jerusalem Post* is all too aware of the difficulty in translating idiomatic expressions. In reporting the pronouncements of politicians, the paper prefers to err on the side of accuracy, even if it means sacrificing style. Ed. - J.P.

UNNECESSARILY RUDE

Sir, - Susan Hattis Roloff should be reminded that politeness is part of political science and being "human."

Was it necessary to describe the state comptroller in such rude terms in her article of April 10, "Only human"? Or is this an example of a poor sense of humor?

While I agree with most of the views expressed in the article, these views are not reinforced by unnecessary pejoration.

Rehovot.

ELLIS WYNICK

POSTSCRIPTS

MOPID A-SHEIKH's goat was like the proverbial goose that laid the golden egg. As with that fabulous fowl of fable, the goat's goose was cooked precisely because of the riches it wrought.

For a while, the billy - featured here in Postscripts recently - was probably the world's most famous goat. It boasted both male and female organs and produced milk that, according to a hastily formulated legend, was said to contain special properties that could help cure medical problems, particularly infertility and lack of libido.

A-Sheikh did not milk the phenomenon for all it was worth. He rationed the precious liquid to just two cups a day because, he explained, "It is only a little udder." He charged NIS 100 per cup.

Reverential pilgrims flocked to Sinarya from throughout the Arab world, hoping the drink would help make their wives pregnant.

But then, early this month, the story took a stunning turn: Sheikh slaughtered the goat.

He claimed he could not take the pressure of masses of people who descended on his sleepy village after international and local media exposure. His neighbors had begged him to spare the life of the five-year-old prodigy.

Sheikh denied rumors that Hamas had ordered him to kill the goat, but journalists working in the territories believe an order from Hamas is the most likely reason Sheikh suddenly eliminated his most liquid asset.

However, like a takeoff of a *Planet of the Apes* plot twist, the story may not end there: Sinarya residents are hoping that the kids recently born to the goat's sister will develop the same life-giving trait.

Liat Collins

THE PROSECUTION and the defense argued their case. The

court deliberated, declared the defendant guilty of murder and sentenced him to 24 years in prison.

Only the defendant would never know the verdict. The Turin court had tried and convicted a dead man.

In what was called an "incredible judicial oversight," the defendant, Tommaso Ceraudo, had himself been murdered weeks earlier.

"No one told us. It's not up to us to undertake these kinds of investigations," the president of the court said. In Italy, defendants are not required to be present at their trials.

Ceraudo's murder hadn't gone unnoticed, however. Most Italian dailies carried detailed stories the day after Ceraudo was killed in a rivalry between underworld gangs.

The error only came to light when police discovered another body connected with the case and began a new investigation.

مكثان الأصل

Spilt soup

D. HENRY SATTLER

OFFICIALLY, World War II was over. But for the thousands of survivors of the Holocaust, the war never ended. For them, the war was a constant presence, a shadow that followed them wherever they went. It was a war that had shaped their lives, their families, and their communities. It was a war that had left them with a deep sense of loss and a longing for a better life. It was a war that had made them resilient and determined to build a new life for themselves. It was a war that had given them a sense of purpose and a sense of direction. It was a war that had made them who they are today. It was a war that had shaped their lives, their families, and their communities. It was a war that had left them with a deep sense of loss and a longing for a better life. It was a war that had made them resilient and determined to build a new life for themselves. It was a war that had given them a sense of purpose and a sense of direction. It was a war that had made them who they are today.

Accept father's new girlfriend or lose him

DEAR RUTHIE
RUTHIE BLUM



Dear Ruthie, My father, who is 65, left my mother to live with a 30-year-old woman. My mother is a wreck, and I don't want to have anything to do with this other woman, who is younger than I am. I still adore him, but I feel he is being totally unreasonable. He says he will not come to a party at my house if his girlfriend isn't welcome. What can I do? Daughter in Distress Somewhere in Israel

Dear D in D, Your father has the right to demand that his current partner be accepted. Though you may feel slighted by his priorities, don't forget that the woman he left was your mother - not you. You, too, have rights - one of them being to reject your father's demand. But consider the cost. Your father is making an attempt to "bargain down" the price of his actions. By not welcoming his woman friend, you are announcing that the price is not negotiable. On the other hand, in the process you will suffer the loss of a parent you "adore."

Dear Ruthie, When I got divorced five years ago, I didn't care whether I ever saw another man for the rest of my life. But now I'm ready to have someone in my life. The problem is that all the men I meet are married, gay, too young, or

completely screwed up. Is there any hope for someone like me? Demoralized Divorcee Somewhere in Israel

Dear Demoralized, Finding a man is like looking for an apartment. Since you only need one, it doesn't matter that most are unsuitable. The idea that there is a reservoir of good choices from which to select Mr. Perfect comes from fairy tales. Once you accept this, there will be endless hope for you to meet an available, heterosexual man.

Dear Ruthie, When we retired, I finally fulfilled a lifelong dream and bought a puppy. She's been with us a year now, and gives me a lot of pleasure. But my wife complains about the dirt, and the dog sheds. How can we resolve this? Canine-Curbed Ashkelon

Dear CC, If your wife doesn't want to clean up after the dog, you should do it. Ask her for a trial period during which you promise to keep the house spotless - or at least hairless. Either she'll resign herself to the dog, or you'll get tired of the housework.

Letters should be addressed to: "Dear Ruthie," POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem. (Ruthie regrets not being able to guarantee publication of every letter, but will answer every letter received.)

Drag queen gives lessons in how to be a woman

BOOKS
RICHARD EDER

FLESH AND BLOOD by Michael Cunningham. Farrar, Straus & Giroux. 465 pp. \$22.

THE characters are as follows: a Greek-American contractor, crude and demanding; his frigid, refined and lonely wife; their gay son, defiant and in increasingly violent conflict with his father; a daughter, even more compulsively correct than her mother, who marries a lawyer and flees to suburban respectability; and a hippie daughter who flees to the East Village, has a son by one of her drugged-out pickups and contracts AIDS. *Flesh and Blood* is an American tragedy? And what is it doing in the hands of Cunningham, perhaps the most brilliant of the many novelists who have dealt with gay themes over the past dozen years, and one of the US's very best writers, in any case, on any theme? Author of the searing, humane and beautifully balanced *A Home at the End of the World*, Cunningham has now written something more risky and far less balanced. By the time he finishes, he has produced a work of dramatic humanity at a high and poetic level.

But to get up to that level - and this is the risk he takes and the price his readers pay - he erects a high, ramshackle scaffolding. For its first 150 pages or so, *Flesh and Blood* is a novel of unrelieved family dysfunction, with characters and situations that are almost unrelieved clichés. That the writing up to this point is sometimes beautiful almost makes matters worse.

As the children of Constantine and Mary grow up, and the family moves from a New Jersey slum to a New Jersey mansion, we are on a plague ship. Cunningham conducts us through his storm-tossed charnel house wearing an authorial surgical mask. He presents the illnesses rather than the patients, the ugliness rather than the ugly, the injury rather than the injured.

One obvious scene follows the other. Working like a dog to get ahead, and feeling unappreciated, Constantine smashes Mary's Easter baskets. At the age of eight, Billy cries when his father offers to buy him a football instead of a toy horse; at 12, he mocks Constantine's ignorance of geography and gets a beating; in high school he has a crush on another boy; at Harvard he lets an aging beatnik seduce him. Mary withdraws nervously into shoplifting and pills.

Susan, a cheerleader conformist, tests her sexual power on her high-school boyfriend and goes home to give her drunk and self-pitying father a seductive kiss. He returns it and keeps after her until she hastily leaves home to get married.

Only Zoe, fey and elusive, stays free. She helps Constantine with his only innocent passion - his garden - and as a child she eludes the bossy Susan by climbing a tree. Almost as if to encourage us to persist through this first unpromising section, Cunningham gives us a taste of the writing that comes later. Her authority flouts, Susan watches her little sister climb. "She believed that Zoe was rising toward an accident more engendered by the sky than the earth."

Billy leaves home in anger, rejects an architectural career because it would please his father, settles for teaching primary school in Boston, and drifts through various gay attachments. After one awful encounter with a menacing pervert, he pumps iron and succeeds in becoming a pseudo-hunk. "He was handsome now that he had invented a self, settled and sure like a garden devoted to one crop," Cunningham writes with gentle irony.

Billy - now Will - has still not found himself. Neither has Susan, who lives a correct suburban life with her successful lawyer husband. She has a stereotypical Lady Chatterley affair with her tree surgeon. Conformity is Susan's revenge on her past, as rebellion is Billy's, and both are sterile.

Zoe opens herself further and is the first to free herself, though in her case freedom turns tragic. She experiments with drugs and lovers and drifts until an affair with a spaced-out black man gives her a baby and an HIV-positive reading. By now she has found Cassandra, though.

Cassandra is the vital center of the book, and its agent of transformation. Originally Bertram Butz, she is a transvestite performer - "she" because she feels herself to be a woman in all but the technical sense - who came to New York after a year of graduate school in the Midwest. Had she stayed, she explains, she would have ended up as an effeminate English teacher with crushes on the male students.

She becomes a comically inspired mentor to Mary, who has divorced Constantine and is trying to learn how to lose her inhibitions, become independent and make friends with her grown children. Cassandra's toughness and tenderness win her over. The old drag queen, herself afflicted with AIDS, has lessons to impart in the majesty of a woman's aging, in what to relinquish and seize, in how to act the role you are dealt until you can become it.

Cunningham - it is his triumph and perhaps a limitation as well - gives this convert a deeper knowledge of how to be a woman than any of his real women possess. (Los Angeles Times)

They shimmer under gilded chandeliers

A dazzling collection of costumes worn by stars is on display in the Paris Opera House, Marilyn August reports



A mannequin displays an exceptionally long cloak on the Palais Garnier's marble staircase. (AP)

HARKING back to the days when opera-going was to see and be seen, the gilded rotunda of the Paris Opera has come alive with some 200 dazzling costumes worn by stars in the century's most famous opera and ballet productions. Mannequins made of black foam wear outfits fashioned in silk, satin, velvet and lace encrusted with semiprecious gems, sequins, gold embroidery - and even plastic.

They lean over balconies on three levels, sit in cozy niches or look as if they're striding up the Palais Garnier's magnificent marble staircase - all to a medley of opera favorites. The opera house currently is closed for renovations, and the season's performances have been transferred to the high-tech Opera Bastille. Meanwhile, visitors can treat themselves to a lavish costume show.

Shimmering under gilded chandeliers, an embroidered red cloak designed by Jacques Dupont for Verdi's *Don Carlos* is the first costume visitors see. Arms spread, head thrown back, the model flings the cape over his back - draped over eight steps of the staircase.

"I wanted the installation of the costumes to suggest the days when people went to the opera not only to see, but to be seen," said Alain Germain, a choreographer who installed the exhibition.

The costumes are the work of some of the century's biggest names in the arts and fashion, including Yves Saint-Laurent, Jean Cocteau and Erte.

Christian Lacroix designed sexy turtlenecks for *Les Angles Terres*, a modern ballet set to the jazz music of Charles Mingus and performed in 1987.

Pablo Picasso put his signature on peasant dresses taken out of storage and worn by ballet dancers in a 1992 production of *Le Tricorne*.

Director Bob Wilson fashioned ultramodern, sack-shaped dresses for an innovative production of *Madama Butterfly* performed last year at the Opera Bastille.

But most of all, the outfits are lavish testimonies to the anonymous dressmakers who worked magic with feathers, pearls and rhinestones.

"The show is a tribute to many professionals who are now an endangered species - hat-makers, cobblers, tailors, wig-makers," said Martine Kahane, the opera's cultural director.

Here, at least, traditions endure. Costumes and headpieces, no matter how intricate, are one-of-a-kind creations made by hand in the opera's workshops.

One section of the show is devoted to new techniques that are replacing the eye-straining, time-consuming handwork.

Look at a waistcoat worn in *Carmen* under the spotlights and you'd swear it's embroidered in gold and silver. That look, in fact, is simply serigraphy - high-tech ink that blows up when dry.

Kahane said she sorted through more than 1,000 costumes, including a pair of pantyhose from the mid-19th century. The pantyhose were worn with a harness to keep them up.

Other highlights include an intricately embroidered gentleman's day suit which is really not a costume at all. It was stolen from the Versailles Palace during the French Revolution and used as a costume - until experts realized its historical value. The suit still has the palace label.

Also on show is the Prince Siegfried costume worn by Rudolf Nureyev in *Swan Lake*, designed by Franca Squarciapino in 1984, and two ordinary-looking, chiffon gowns Maria Callas donned for a 1964 production of *Norma*.

"L'Opera Cote Costumes" runs through September 30. The 30-franc (NIS 18) entry fee includes a visit to the costume museum, whose archives boast 75,000 pieces. The oldest outfit, in a glass case, dates to the 17th century. (Associated Press)

How to give drooping cabinet doors a lift

FIX IT YOURSELF
TAC KATZ

UNALIGNED cabinet doors are an eyesore and a nuisance to use. And the lack of alignment can damage both the doors and the cabinet.

If your doors droop, tilt or refuse to shut without being coaxed, you can bet your bottom self you've got a hinge problem on your hands. Adjusting these culprits is a simple procedure.

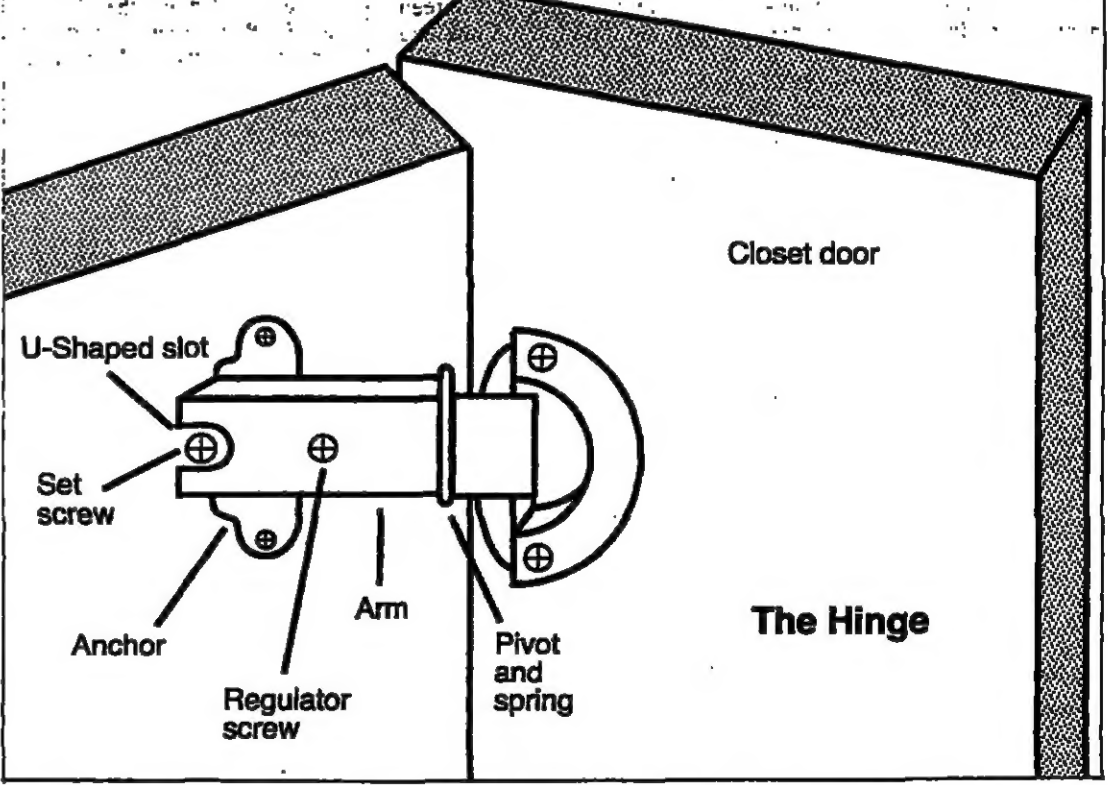
This repair applies to hinges with a spring, widely used in modern wardrobes and kitchen cabinets in this country.

MATERIALS REQUIRED
Screwdriver (maver) that fits the screws securing the hinge; tape measure (meter) or level (peles), optional.

Get to know your hinge: Open the sagging cupboard door. Inside, at the point where the door meets the cabinet, there will be two or more hinges (*zirim*). The hinge is usually metal, though the parts attaching it to the door and cabinet may be plastic.

Each hinge consists of two main parts - an anchor (*ogen*) which, throughout this repair, remains stationary, and a pivoting arm (*zro'a*) with a spring. The anchor is located on the inner wall of the cabinet, close to the edge. The arm is attached to the inner edge of the door. (The pivot enables the door to open and close, while the spring serves to "clomp" the door open or shut.)

A "setscrew" attaches the arm to the anchor. (To remove a door from the cabinet, the setscrews of all hinges with an oval hole must be removed.) Use the setscrew to adjust how far the door is set



from the cabinet itself. Another screw in the arm, between the setscrew and the pivot, is used to adjust the door's alignment sideways with the cabinet and adjacent doors. Let's call it "the regulator."

The regulator is usually smaller than the setscrew, so two screwdrivers may be necessary. Some brands of hinges have a headless regulator (one with a slot directly on the thread). This will be apparent if the regulator is "hidden" in its hole. In this case, use a screwdriver small enough to get into the hole.

[Note: If other screws are visible, ignore them. They serve to

attach each part of the hinge to the wood (or other material) of the door or cabinet. These should only be touched when installing a new hinge.] The arm will have either a U-shaped slot or an oval hole through which the setscrew is inserted.

The oval or U-shape gives the arm leeway around the setscrew for forward-back adjustment of the door. To achieve complete alignment of the door - such that it is flush with neighboring doors or drawers, and properly parallel or perpendicular to them - you will be performing a kind of dance between the setscrew and the regulator.

DIRECTIONS
Open the door. Loosen the setscrews of each hinge, unscrewing about two twists of the wrist. Hold the door along its edge, and pull it toward you. It should move about 1/2 centimeter. Now retighten the setscrews by about one twist of the wrist. Close the door carefully and press your open palm along the edge of it - on the side opposite the hinges. (Usually, this is the side on which the door handle is located.) With your other hand, pound with the fleshy part of your fist at the back of each hinge. (Since the hinges are not visi-

ble here, you will estimate their location.) Once the door is flush against the cabinet, open it carefully and tighten the setscrews tightly.

Though now flush, the door may still be out of place. If the spacing around the door is uneven, side-to-side adjustment will be required. Here is where the regulator comes into play.

[To judge uneven spacing, your eyesight should suffice, but perfectionists can use a tape measure or level for added certainty. Severe unevenness will cause the door to bump into its neighbors.] Before fiddling with the regulator, two principles should be kept in mind: (1) The regulator and the setscrew always move in opposite directions from one another.

To tighten the regulator, you must first loosen the setscrew.

To tighten the setscrew, you must first loosen the regulator. (2) Tightening the regulator causes movement away from the hinge and loosening it causes movement toward the hinge.

For example, if the upper part of a two-hinged door which opens to the left is tilting toward the right, the regulator of the top hinge must be loosened.

[Don't worry if you didn't get that straight. Trial and error can be applied when in doubt.] It is only necessary to turn the screws about a one-half of a twist in either direction during this process.

After adjusting one of the hinges, the other may then require some readjustment.

If you have a question or can suggest simple solutions to annoying problems, write to: Fix It Yourself, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.

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Even Dorin Frankfurt, whose specialty is camouflage layering with flowing tunics, has suddenly resorted to tapered silhouettes and hemlines that barely graze the knee.

Romance is in, so belt up for summer

FLAIR

GREER FAY CASHMAN

IN trashy romantic novels, the heroine is usually waith-like and incredibly thin. If the romance is going badly, she's starving herself; if it's blossoming, she's so happy that she doesn't need to eat.

On this basis, romantic fashions are automatically associated with wasp waists and slim silhouettes.

And since fashion this season is definitely romantic, those who want to look good in their new summer outfits should immediately get rid of excess flab.

Even Dorin Frankfurt, whose specialty is camouflage layering via flowing tunics or jackets over long, tubular skirts, has suddenly resorted to tapered silhouettes and hemlines which barely graze the knee.

Layering still appears in Hagara's collection, but only to suggest movement. In other respects, her styling follows the natural curves of the body.

Ilana Efrati has also nipped in her waists and adopted a more tailored cut, while the French Morgan fashions stocked by many Israeli retail outlets tend to be retrospective, with the nostalgia focus primarily on short and sexy A-line dresses.

Cutaway tunics revealing navels over the waistbands of skirts are Cerruti's way of emphasizing taut torsos.

Underwear as outerwear (which owes so much of its popularity to Madonna), is less visible than it was last summer, but can still be seen in several collections. There is no doubt that underwear inspired designer Yardenia Ziv in her latest effort on behalf of Honigman.

None of this means that you have to toss out all those loose-fitting outfits you wore last year. Just get an eye-catching belt that flatters your figure, and you'll be right in fashion. When the wasp waist has run its course, just get rid of the belt.



The short and sexy A-line dress, by Morgan, the French fashion line available in many retail stores here, is complemented by a thin belt.

Sock holders get 'em and keep 'em together

OFF THE SHELF

MARTHA MEISELS

EVERYONE knows what black holes are. That's where missing socks go.

A new product called Little Feet is meant to stop socks from disappearing in the laundry. It is a set of plastic sock holders in the shape of feet. Each holder has slits in which to insert the two socks of a matching pair.

Firmly gripped in the Little Feet, the paired socks go through a washing machine and clothes dryer without getting separated. They can also be hung on a line while still in the holders.

I've tried out the product and it is easy to use, with one proviso: You must take the time and trouble to match up the dirty socks and insert them into Little Feet before laundering. Try training family members to do this with their own socks before tossing them into the laundry hamper.

Made of bright colored flexible plastic, the sock holders are said to be durable at any washing and drying temperature. They are manufactured by a British company called M.I.A. (for Missing in Action). Imported by I. Goldenberg of Azur, they are distributed by Senta of Rehovot (08-461651).

The first shipments of Little Feet have just been delivered to a number of chain stores, which will sell packs of five for NIS 9 to NIS 10. Chains which have taken orders include Kne u-Vne, Super-Sol, Hypercol, Hagal Hayarok, Super Center, Hyper Co-op, and Co-op Tzafon.

In the UK, where the product came out earlier this year, Little Feet is being promoted with the catchy slogan "Practice Safe Socks."

A footnote: The importer of Little Feet reports interest from the Association for the Blind, which has been using a similar device from the US in order to help the blind keep their socks in mated colors.

A colleague has another solution to pairing socks: Save the blue rings from two-liter milk bottles which snap off the cap the first time you open them. They do the same job and the milk only costs a few agorot more per liter

than in the standard bags.

ISRAEL'S flagship sock manufacturer, Delta, is letting babies and toddlers show the flag on their feet this Independence Day. The blue-and-white national banner appears on white socks for little feet, up to about age two. They sell for NIS 8.50 a pair at major chain stores and some independent shops.

I'm not enthusiastic about the idea of any national flag appearing on clothing, although I know this is done widely in the West—even, irreverently, on underwear. To the best of my knowledge, there is no law here against printing flags on socks. Perhaps there should be.

HAAGEN-DAZS ice cream, the famous American brand, is arriving from its factory in France just in time for our 47th national birthday party. As of May 1, it will be available at 200 outlets in the Super-Sol, Blue Square Co-op, Co-op Ra'anana, Shekem and Clal Pharm chains.

A 450-gram (approximately half-liter) carton will sell for NIS 19.99—making Haagen-Dazs the most expensive ice cream in Israel. The product is certified kosher by the Orthodox Union (OU). There are no plans to manufacture it here.

Ten flavors will make their local debut next week: vanilla, strawberry, chocolate with chocolate chips, Belgian chocolate, praline, macadamia nut, rum-and-raisin, caramel and cappuccino.

Sometime in May, Haagen-Dazs Israel will open the first of a chain of ice cream parlors—in Tel Aviv's Dizengoff Center. The next two branches will be in Kiryat Savoyon (near Savoyon) and in Ramat Hasharon.

Under a special arrangement with the Domino's Pizza chain, three flavors—vanilla fudge, vanilla pecan and Belgian chocolate—will be available for home delivery, either together with its pizza, or for two or more pints of ice cream.

For those who still don't know, Haagen-Dazs is a made-up name which means absolutely nothing in any language, but was meant to convey a sense of Continental quality and Scandinavian cold.

The local franchise holders



Gift idea: 'The Magic Tea Box' from Wissotzky is a hinged wooden chest that contains eight selections of tea, with descriptions of them in English and Hebrew.

promise to ensure that all its ice cream will be properly transported at minus-30 C in a special fleet of vehicles set up by a new distribution company, Frostiv, in which Tivall holds the controlling interest.

A NEW summer treat for youngsters is Thruva's individual Milkshake in three flavors: vanilla, chocolate and strawberry. A 250-milliliter carton, complete with flexible straw, sells for NIS 2.12. It is easily recognizable by the black background of the carton.

Because it is made of long-life milk, it does not require refrigerated storage until opened. However, in order to be enjoyed properly, it should be well chilled and then shaken for 20 seconds before opening. Thanks to its bendable straw, an unfinished carton can be put back in the fridge with little danger of spilling.

Grownups may like these milkshakes too, but should bear in mind that each 100-ml. contains 92 calories.

Thruva also offers a new individual-pack chocolate milk, also from long-life milk, at NIS 1.70 for 250 ml. It's in a multicolored carton marked simply "Choco."

FOR THOSE keeping a close watch on their diets, fruit juices are a smarter warm weather choice.

Prigat of Kibbutz Givat Haim has just come out with tall cartons of fresh-squeezed orange and grapefruit juice, called S'hutari (a composite of "fresh" and "squeezed").

Its main drawback is price: NIS 7.20 per liter. To justify the price in a country flowing with citrus fruit, Prigat marks on the labels "produced from 14 oranges" and "produced from nine grapefruits."

Being of a suspicious nature, I tried an experiment of my own. I found four large oranges (not specifically juice oranges) in my refrigerator, which happened to weigh exactly one kilo. Using the juicer on a mixer, I produced just under half a liter of juice.

My neighborhood supermarket is selling oranges for NIS 2.99 this week, grapefruit for NIS 1.99. At that rate, it would cost me over NIS 6 to make a liter of fresh squeezed juice at home.

Assuming that the factory uses smaller oranges, it might indeed take 14 of them to produce a liter of juice. Of course, the producers of Prigat do not pay retail prices for their fruit, and they get the varieties with the most juice and thinnest skin.

Whether it is reasonable to pay NIS 7.20 for a carton of fresh-squeezed juice must remain an individual decision. Another excuse for its high price is its short shelf life, compared to other types of orange juice.

For my money and convenience, I am happy with Prigat's frozen natural orange juice, at NIS 4.15 for a container which makes one liter.

DIABETICS AND other dieters should welcome the new Diet Prigat, a low-calorie fruit nectar with no added sugar. It bears the seal of approval of the Israel Diabetes Association—incidentally, the only words of English on the labeling.

Nectar is a term for fruit drinks which contain a high percentage of fruit plus water and sweeteners.

Instead of sugar, the Diet Prigat nectars use aspartame and acesulfame-K. Each 100 ml. of beverage contains 13 calories. Flavors available so far are mango and plum.

In accordance with the de-

mands of the Diabetes Association, each glass of nectar (200 ml.) contains only six grams of carbohydrates. Under the association's recommendations, a diabetic should drink no more than two glasses of this nectar per day, and each glassful constitutes a substitute for a serving of fruit.

The retail price is NIS 5.40 per liter carton.

THE MAGIC Tea Box from the Wissotzky tea manufacturers makes a very impressive gift—but most of the NIS 69 price is for the box.

It is a hinged wooden chest about the size of a thick telephone directory. The cover illustration is straight out of India, elephant and all.

Inside are eight sections with bags of herbal teas, fruit-flavored teas, and Earl Grey tea, eight of each kind. The inside lid gives a detailed description of each in English and Hebrew.

Such teas, when sold in ordinary paper boxes, average less than 25 agorot per bag, which means that the total value of the tea in The Magic Tea Box is probably no more than NIS 16. The rest is for the decorative box and the concept itself.

The gift box is available thus far at some specialty food shops and at the Matana gift-shop chain. I wondered whether the flavors cross over from one another, since the open box smells like one big tea garden, but Wissotzky claims the individual paper envelopes are sufficient to protect the integrity of each flavor.

Teas such as those found in the box, however, are available at any supermarket in simple paper boxes. Three of the newest are Wissotzky's cherry, raspberry and mango teas—all of which consist of real tea leaves with the addition of dried fruit and fruit flavor. A package of 25 bags sells for NIS 5.90.

In contrast are Lipton's latest herbal infusions (*halitot*); they're not called "teas" because they don't contain tea leaves, so they are also labeled "caffeine free."

The hibiscus-and-rosehip infusion sells for NIS 6.95, and the lime flower-and-red fruit infusion is NIS 7.95. Each pack contains 25 bags.

Coffee, anyone?

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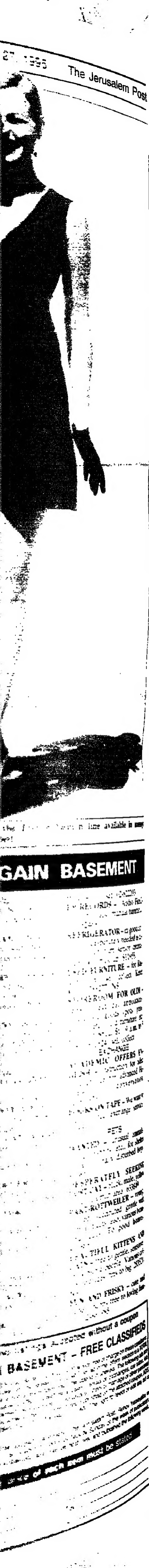
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BUSINESS & FINANCE

THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 1995

Lubelsky demands Cellcom stop selling subscriptions

JOSE ROSENFELD

INDUSTRY and Trade Deputy Minister Masha Lubelsky yesterday demanded that Cellcom immediately stop selling subscriptions to its cellular telephone service and indemnify its subscribers for frequent breakdowns in service.

Lubelsky noted that her office has recently received a flood of complaints that the company's cellular phones were frequently out of order and that clients have been unable to receive calls due to technical problems.

A review ordered by Lubelsky's office revealed that a technical problem in the past two months has caused the phones of 55,000 subscribers to be occasionally inoperable.

Moreover, despite the problem, Cellcom has continued signing on new subscribers - even though there is no available solution for the new future.

Lubelsky called on Cellcom to immediately publish a notice explaining how it will indemnify its subscribers for the anguish and financial loss incurred in the past months.

She also directed the head of the ministry's consumer protection department to check if the agreement between Cellcom and its subscribers prevents customers from bringing claims against the company for misrepresentation based on contract law and Consumer Protection Law.

Cellcom managing director Ya'acov Peri contacted Lubelsky's office following her announcement and agreed to quickly issue a notice to the company's subscribers explaining how to get indemnified.



Lubelsky: Has received a flood of complaints about the firm.

Dollar spurts ahead on G7 support

LONDON (Reuters) - The dollar spurred ahead yesterday as the world's leading finance ministers said their attempts to prop up the currency appeared to be working and voiced hopes it would rise even more.

"I welcome the market assessment of the dollar. I hope this will be sustained," Bank of Japan Governor Yasuo Matsuoka said in Washington on his way to a meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

"It has responded well," French Finance Minister Edmond Alphandery said.

Finance ministers and central bank chiefs of the Group of Seven nations said on Tuesday after talks that the dollar had fallen too far.

Its slide was not justified by their economies' performance and they called for an orderly reversal of the drop.

Although European markets were disappointed that the verbal support was not backed up by concrete measures, the dollar surged by about a penny and more than two yen yesterday.

But some market analysts said the cautious recovery could be short-lived. The currency has slumped nearly 20 percent against the Japanese yen and more than 10% against the German mark since the start of the year.

"There may be some short-term respite for the dollar," said

Sanjai Joshi, chief economist at Daiwa Securities here. "But after all none of the factors that weigh on the dollar has changed and there are no quick remedies."

Dealers said the G7 failure to take coordinated action on the dollar would eventually erode sentiment and push the currency to lows at least once more.

"The market continues its love affair with marks, yen and swissie [Swiss franc]. Nothing has really changed," said David Herd, a corporate dealer at Svenska Handelsbank in London.

"There has not been a change in the fundamental story for dollar/mark or dollar/yen," said David Gilmore, partner at New York-based Foreign Exchange

Analytics consulting firm.

Dealers cited Japan's large current account surplus and the U.S. trade and budget deficits as obstacles likely to impede the dollar's progress.

Analysts noted that the G7 - which groups the US, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada - offered no short-term remedies for the dollar's plight. But others said the dollar's slide may have been overdone and attributed its spurt to buying by US funds and other long-term players.

"The dollar's performance suggests that it is looking for a base," said Stuart Thomson, chief economist at Nikko Europe in London.

'C & W behind Bezek stock purchase'

NEIL COHEN

A SENIOR official at the Communications Ministry confirmed that Cable & Wireless was behind the purchase of a 4.7 percent stake in Bezek on Monday, Reuters reported yesterday.

However, the ministry spokesman denied the report. Cable & Wireless issued a statement saying it had no com-

ment on reports it was behind UK investment bank BZW's purchase of the Bezek stock. The C & W spokesman told

Reuters Israel "is a region that we are interested in" but would not say whether it was interested in building a stake in Bezek. Reuters said no one at BZW was available for comment.

Most oppose plan to shut banks on Friday

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MORE than 70 percent of people's banking activities are conducted on Friday, according to a Gallup survey of the public's reaction to the possibility of banks moving to a five-day work week.

Earlier this month, Bank of Israel Supervisor Zeev Abeles proposed that the banks' work week be shortened to match those of banks abroad.

The survey reveals that 54% of the public think the economy will suffer if the banks move to a shorter work week.

Gallup said the more educated percentage of the population and the higher income earners are expected to oppose most.

According to the survey, 85% of the public think banks will have to remain open at least until 7 p.m. if they decide to move to a shorter work week, while 33% believe banks will have to stay open until 8 p.m.

Some 10% do not think it will be necessary to extend working hours at all.

The survey, conducted on behalf of the Manufacturers Association, was of more than 615 people over the age of 18.

Bill in preparation to outlaw money laundering

A BILL, in the final stages of preparation by the Justice Ministry, will make money laundering a crime.

The bill - which has been prepared in consultation with the police, customs authorities, Income Tax Authority and the Bank of

Israel - would make a criminal offense the handling of monies resulting from a crime with a view to hiding their origin, their beneficial owner or the criminal act.

The maximum penalty for the crime, which does not currently exist on the statute book, would

be 10 years' imprisonment.

The monies laundered would be confiscated by the state, unless, for special reasons, the court decides otherwise.

According to the Justice Ministry spokeswoman, the legislation fits in with Israel's international

commitment to the Vienna Treaty of 1988.

This treaty calls for a war on drug money.

Israel is a party to the treaty but has not yet ratified it as it has not yet legislated against money laundering. (tim)

Scope registers NIS 10 million net earnings in first quarter

COMPANY RESULTS

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

Holdings, completed the year with a NIS 1.45m. net profit, compared with a NIS 1.03m. net loss during the same period last year.

In the reported period, sales grew 74 percent to NIS 35.96m. from NIS 20.66m.

• Tashluz Properties, a subsidiary of Tashluz Investments &

Total expenses increased to NIS 10.39m. from NIS 1.82m.

• Five J Jewelers reported a NIS 1.03m. net loss, compared with a NIS 3.44m. net profit the previous year.

A drop in sales to NIS 88.7m. from NIS 102.23m. was one of the key factors which led to the decline.

Operating profits decreased to NIS 2.91m. from NIS 6.11m.

Aloni agrees to consider Arab cable channel

JUDY SIEGEL

COMMUNICATIONS Minister Shaulit Aloni has decided to consider the possibility of allowing the establishment of an Arab cable TV channel on a commercial basis.

In doing so, Aloni accepted the recommendations of the Cable Broadcasting Council to look into this proposal. She will meet with Arab businessmen who are interested in establishing a station.

Aloni asked council chairman Michael Rafaili-Kadouri to prepare the principles of a tender in which commercial interests in Israel and abroad would be able to participate.

She said she hoped the project would attract Arabs or be done jointly by Arabs and Jews, and the cable TV companies would be spurred to install lines in Arab towns.

The ministry will act vigorously to close down pirate Arab broadcasting efforts this year, as it has done in the Jewish sector, and has asked the Treasury for a special budget for this, she said.

UAL posts net profits

NEW YORK (Reuters) - UAL Corp., parent of United Airlines, yesterday reported its first profitable first quarter since 1989, with earnings that exceeded expectations.

UAL's results indicated that its 1994 employee buy-out has helped to reduce costs sharply, analysts said of the Chicago-based carrier.

"They've got the best unit cost declines in the industry for the first quarter," said Paul Karos of CS First Boston. "This is definitely a good quarter for them."

The airline reported income of \$3 million, or \$1.50 a share, compared with a year-ago loss of \$97m., including one-time items.

Revenues increased to \$3.33 billion from \$3.19b. a year earlier.

"Our dramatic improvement in unit cost [operating expenses per available seat mile] enabled United Airlines to post greatly improved operating results," chairman Gerald Greenwald said in a statement.

He attributed the profitability to cost-reduction initiatives, the new short-haul Shuttle by United and "cost consciousness" by employees.

Greenwald said there were strong improvements in yield, measured in revenue per passenger mile, in the Pacific and Atlantic markets during the quarter.

Scitex, Xerox in strategic relationship

XEROX Corp. and Scitex Corp. announced yesterday a strategic relationship that will enable both firms to advance their positions in the short-run digital color printing marketplace.

Under the terms of the agreement, the companies will share core technological competencies and market expertise.

The first offering will be a printing system, to be distributed by Scitex that incorporates its digital front end and provides productive workflow management with a high speed full color print engine developed by Fuji Xerox.

Dovrat: New criteria for approval of state investments will hurt some firms

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

MOST of the investment subsidies to recycling factories and plants supplying infrastructure to industry will be canceled as a result of new criteria for the approval of investments, Industry and Trade Ministry Investment Center Moshe Dovrat said yesterday.

The new criteria for reviewing applicants for investment subsidies discriminate against companies manufacturing solely for the domestic market, such as those operating in the recycling field and food and textile manufacturers.

Dovrat said the center's new criteria places a strong emphasis on companies' value added contribution to the economy and exports.

"We decided to review the Capital Investments Encouragement Law in accordance with the balance of trade deficit and inflation rate," he said. "The new criteria put an emphasis on raising exports and reducing imports. It is important for Israeli companies to have a springboard similar to that of their overseas competitors."

The Investment Center has a NIS 1.8 billion budget this year, which has not changed in real terms over the last two years.

The center has decided to cancel the criteri-

on which gives preference to import substitute products, with the exception of essential merchandise. The center also has increased the value added criterion to 35 percent from 25%.

Commenting on the influence of the new criteria on recycling factories, Dovrat said that "since we have canceled the import substitute criterion, it follows that there will be less demand for recycling factories."

Dovrat said the Environment Ministry has to design a new map to determine government aid to recycling factories.

"It makes no sense for a recycling factory to be offered development zone A benefits when most of the country's waste is in the central region. The Environment Ministry is aware of the problem."

As a result of the new criteria, investors will be required to prepare a three-year investment plan. Previously, they were required to present a five- to 10-year plan.

The center has also decided to favor proposals which are based on industries' dependence on technologies developed in Israel, military products adapted to civilian use, strategic partnerships with foreign investors and finan-

cial and marketing potential.

In addition, the center will favor proposals in Arab, Druze and Beduin sectors, as well as confrontation zones and areas suffering from high unemployment.

"The entrepreneurs' credibility, past work performance, environment, quality management and workers wages will also be considered," said Dovrat.

He said the center hopes to speed up the review of applications for investment subsidies by making it possible for all banks to review whether the project is worthwhile from the perspective of the investor and the state.

Currently, Industrial Development Bank performs all the reviews, with the center receiving about 1,100 applications each year. Dovrat said the process takes between three and four months.

The center said it has taken measures to increase its supervision of projects awarded investment subsidies. He said the center has hired additional appraisers and accountants, including an accountancy firm specializing in investigations.

The center has also established a special division to follow up approved factories.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Cabinet ratifies treaties for protecting investments: The cabinet yesterday ratified treaties for the protection and promotion of investments with Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, the Treasury reported.

The treaties protect investors from each country against discrimination and acts that will decrease the value of their investments. In addition, the treaties guarantee the right of investors to realize their investment at any time they desire.

Trade pact signed with Taiwan: Taiwanese Deputy Economics Minister Lee Shu-Jou and Industry and Trade Ministry director general Yossi Snir signed an economic and trade cooperation agreement on Tuesday night. The countries have agreed to negotiate treaties for the protection and promotion of investments.

Decision delayed on giving Kiryat Gat zone A status: The cabinet yesterday postponed consideration of giving Kiryat Gat zone A status under the Capital Investments Encouragement Law.

Finance Minister Avraham Shohat opposes the proposal on grounds that the city is located near the country's center and would economically undermine development towns in the Negev.

Vita has started marketing Pri-Gat products as part of a joint venture agreement recently reached between the two companies. Vita will distribute all of Pri-Gat beverage products in the South of the country.

REI International has been awarded exclusive representation of Worldtariff in Israel. Worldtariff specializes in international tax duties. The company's services are intended to help customers receive world-wide information on tax tariffs, import and export customs and quotas. The company also provides up-to-date international trade information.

WORLD BRIEFS

US durables orders post surprising rise in March: Orders for long-lasting durable goods posted a surprising rise in March as demand increased for a broad range of products, the Commerce Department said yesterday. The value of total orders rose 0.6 percent to a seasonally adjusted \$164.3 billion - a sharp contrast to a seasonally adjusted \$154.3 billion drop - following a revised 0.7% decline in February. Reuters

Philips profits soar: Philips Electronics, Europe's biggest consumer electronics company, announced sharply higher first-quarter net profits yesterday, but warned that high sales and earnings growth might not continue at the same pace for the whole year.

Philips said net income from normal business operations more than doubled to 544 million guilders (\$328 million) in the first three months of 1995, up from 260 million (\$135m.). Analysts welcomed the better than expected results and said they would be marking their full-year forecasts higher. Reuters

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patrah (foreign currency deposit rates) (26.4.95)				
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS	
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	5.750	5.875	5.950	
Pound sterling (£100,000)	5.750	5.125	4.875	
German mark (DM 200,000)	3.825	3.125	3.125	
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	2.750	2.875	2.950	
Yen (¥10 million yen)	-	-	-	

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (26.4.95)				
CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		BANKNOTES		Rep. Rates**
Buy	Sell	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.4473	3.5034	2.89	3.4728
U.S. dollar	2.8413	2.8928	3.04	2.9830
German mark	1.2175	1.2119	2.08	2.1444
Pound sterling	4.7318	4.8003	4.85	4.7704
French franc	0.0203	0.0195	0.59	0.6094
Japanese yen (¥100)	3.5309	3.5879	3.47	3.5495
Dutch guilder	1.9013	1.9200	1.86	1.9150
Swiss franc	2.5757	2.6183	2.63	2.6587
Swedish krona	0.3988	0.4053	0.39	0.4016
Norwegian krone	0.4725	0.4802	0.48	0.4780
Danish krone	0.5417	0.5505	0.53	0.5458
Finnish mark	0.0893	0.0905	0.07	0.0848
Canadian dollar	2.1578	2.1928	2.12	2.1748
Australian dollar	2.1473	2.1820	2.11	2.1520
S. African rand	0.0107	0.0228	0.73	0.8171
Slovenian tolar (10)	1.0840	1.0513	1.01	1.0620
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0386	3.0755	2.97	3.0477
Italian lira (1000)	1.7113	1.7350	1.58	1.7280
Jordanian dinar	4.5124	4.5801	4.72	4.5997
Egyptian pound	-	-	0.83	0.91
ECU	3.9028	3.9558	-	3.9381
Irish punt	4.5124	4.5801	4.72	4.5997
Spanish peseta (100)	2.3785	2.4109	2.33	2.3912

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

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Romania stays comfortably atop Group 1

FLORIN Raducioiu scored a hat-trick to lead Romania to a comfortable 4-1 victory over Azerbaijan in a European Championship qualifying game yesterday.

The victory moved Romania, unbeaten in six games, closer to a berth in next year's European Championship in England. Romania leads Group 1 with 14 points. Azerbaijan has lost all six of its qualifying matches.

In other Group 1 action, France had an easy 4-0 win over Slovakia to move into second place with 10 points. Israel, following its 4-3 loss to Poland on Tuesday, is in third place, one point adrift of the French.

Romania's Raducioiu converted a penalty in the game's first minute, and followed up with goals in the 68th and 76th minutes. Seville striker Ilie Dumitrescu, who is on loan to the Spanish club from Tottenham, also netted in the 38th minute for the Romanians.

Nasim Suleymanov scored Azerbaijan's lone goal in the fourth minute.

The game was played in Trabzon, a Black Sea coastal town, after European governing body UEFA ordered that Azerbaijan play its home qualifying matches at a neutral site because of civil unrest in the former Soviet republic.

France got back on the goal track at long last, running riot in a stunning 4-0 win over Slovakia which gave a huge boost to its chances of reaching next year's finals.

With only two goals from its previous five qualifying games in



STEP FOR STEP - Luis Enrique (1) of Spain fights for control of the ball with Armenia's Aroutun Vardanian. Spain won 2-0.

Group 1 - both against Azerbaijan - the French were under enormous pressure from fans and media alike to rediscover their goal touch.

If it needed Slovakia to show them the way - midfielder Ondrej Kristofik cranked the French machine into motion when he turned the ball into his own net in the 27th minute - France needed no more indications as to the direction of the Slovak net from then on.

David Ginola made it two

three minutes before the break with a powerful header and Laurent Blanc and Vincent Guerin scored two more early in the second half as the Slovak defense found itself totally overwhelmed.

Germany 1, Wales 1
Wales scored an early goal and held injury-weakened Germany to a draw. Germany, which was missing six stalwarts (Lothar Matthaus, Matthias Sammer, Andreas Moeller, Thomas Strunz, Jurgen Kohler and Thomas Helmer), spoiled its 100-percent record after winning in its first four Group 7 matches. (Reuter, AP)

European Nations' Championship qualifying group 1

Team	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Romania	6	4	2	0	13	5	14
France	6	2	4	0	6	10	10
Israel	6	2	3	1	10	9	9
Poland	6	2	2	2	7	7	7
Slovakia	6	1	2	3	8	10	5
Azerbaijan	6	0	0	6	2	16	0

GROUP 1
Romania 4, Azerbaijan 1 (halftime 2-1) in Trabzon. Scorers: Florin Raducioiu (penalty, 1st min, 68th, 76th), Ilie Dumitrescu (38th). Azerbaijan: Nasim Suleymanov (4th).

France 4, Slovakia 0 (halftime 2-0) in Nantes. Scorers: Olivier Durtelle (own goal, 27th), David Ginola (42nd), Laurent Blanc (56th), Vincent Guerin (63rd). Attendance: 26,100.

GROUP 2
Denmark 1, Macedonia 0 (halftime 0-0) in Copenhagen. Scorer: Peter Nielsen (70th). Attendance: 38,880.

Belgium 2, Cyprus 0 (halftime 1-0) in Brussels. Scorers: Emmanuel Karagannis (20th), Gerd Schepers (47th). Attendance: 14,000.

Spain 2, Armenia 0 (halftime 0-0) in Yerevan. Scorers: Jose Amavisca (48th), Juan Goicoechea (62nd). Attendance: 40,000.

GROUP 3
Hungary 1, Sweden 0 (halftime 1-0) in Budapest. Scorer: Gabor Halmai (2nd). Attendance: 8,000.

Turkey 2, Switzerland 1 (halftime 1-1) in Bern. Scorers: Switzerland: Marc Hostler (38th); Turkey: Sukur Haktan (17th), Temizkanoglu Ogun (54th). Attendance: 24,000.

GROUP 4
Italy 1, Lithuania 0 (halftime 1-0) in Vilnius. Scorer: Gianfranco Zola (12th). Attendance: 15,000.

Croatia 2, Slovenia 0 (halftime 1-0) in Zagreb. Scorers: Robert Prosinecki (17th), Davor Suker (50th). Attendance: 25,000.

Ukraine 1, Estonia 0 (halftime 1-0) in Tallinn. Scorer: Tomenko Guseinov (18th). Attendance: Not announced.

GROUP 5
Czech Republic 3, Netherlands 1 (halftime 0-1) in Prague. Scorers: Czech Republic: Tomas Sobotka (48th), Václav Necid (57th), Petr Berger (67th); Netherlands: Wim Jonck (70th). Attendance: 22,000.

Baltics 1, Malta 0 (halftime 0-0) in Riga. Scorer: Balceris (71st). Attendance: 5,000.

Norway 5, Luxembourg 0 (halftime 2-0) in Oslo. Scorers: John Ivar Jacobsen (11th), Jan Aage Fjørtoft (12th), Harald Stenrud (22nd), Hecceg Berg (60th), Kjell Rekdal (82nd). Attendance: 15,124.

GROUP 6
Austria 7, Liechtenstein 0 (halftime 3-0) in Salzburg. Scorers: Dietmar Kuehner (30th), Toni Polster (11th, 33rd, 53rd, 63rd), Herbert Sauter (72nd), Christian Fuchs (85th), Kai Hader (88th, 90th). Attendance: 5,500.

Northern Ireland 1, Latvia 0 (halftime 0-0) in Riga. Scorer: Ian Down (65th, penalty). Attendance: 1,500.

GROUP 7
Bulgaria 3, Moldova 0 (halftime 1-0) in Chisinau. Scorers: Krasimir Balakov (22nd), Hristo Stichkov (58th), Amosov (62nd). Attendance: 1,700.

Germany 1, Wales 1 (halftime 1-1) in Düsseldorf. Scorers: Germany: Heiko Herrlich (42nd); Wales: Dean Saunders (8th). Attendance: 44,000.

Georgia 2, Albania 0 (halftime 2-0) in Tbilisi. Scorers: Shota Arveladze (25th), Temur Ketskhava (42nd). Attendance: 20,000.

Scotland 2, San Marino 0 (halftime 1-0) in San Marino. Scorers: John Docherty (28th), Colin Donachie (58th). Attendance: 1,700.

Russia 3, Greece 0 (halftime 1-0) in Salonic. Scorers: Yuri Yevtseyev (38th), Theodore Zagladis (own goal, 78th), Vladimir Beschastnyy (78th). Attendance: 45,000.

Finland 4, Faroe Islands 0 (halftime 0-0) in Tórshavn. Scorers: Antti Hytonen (55th), Mika-Matti Paatelainen (58th), Jarmo Lintinen (75th), Petteri Pasanen (83rd). Attendance: 1,000.

Czechs struggle past Austria 5-2

STOCKHOLM (AP) - Left wing Martin Prochazka scored two goals as the Czech Republic struggled past Austria 5-2 yesterday in the World Ice Hockey Championship.

The victory improved the Czechs to 2-0 and moved them into first place in the Pool B standings on better goal differential than the United States, also 2-0 in the round-robin phase of the tournament.

TUESDAY'S RESULTS

France 4, Canada 1
Christian Pouget scored twice and had an assist as France upset defending-champion Canada.

It was France's first win ever at a major tournament against Canada, which is playing without its NHL stars.

Philippe Bozon scored for France 26 seconds into the game. Jean Marc Soghomonyan made the score 2-0 just 26 seconds later.

Canada cut the lead to 2-1 at 8:50 of

the first on a power-play goal by Raffaele Intramuro but Pouget made it 3-1 at 13:26.

Pouget scored his second goal of the game at 19:02 of the second period on a power-play to make the score 4-1.

USA 2, Norway 1
The US, helped by Pat Jablonski's superb goaltending, edged Norway for its second consecutive victory.

The Americans beat Austria 5-2 in the opener Monday. Norway dropped to 0-2.

Defenseman Chris Imes and center Jon Morris, one of the two European-based players on the team, scored for the Americans in the opening period.

Russia 8, Switzerland 0
Sergei Berezin scored three goals and Oleg Belov added a pair as Russia trounced Switzerland.

Finland 6, Sweden 3
Linemates Saku Koivu and Ville Peltonen each scored two goals as Finland came back from a 2-0 deficit.

Finland moved to 1-1 in the pool B standings after losing 3-0 to the Czech Republic on Sunday. Sweden fell to 1-1.

NHL - Tuesday's results: Chicago 4, Vancouver 3 (OT); St. Louis 5, Dallas 4; Edmonton 5, Winnipeg 3; Calgary 3, San Jose 2; Los Angeles 5, Detroit 1.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	28	14	4	56	142	122
New Jersey	20	17	9	47	122	110
Washington	19	19	7	45	116	110
N.Y. Rangers	20	21	3	43	126	122
Pittsburgh	18	20	5	41	104	111
Tampa Bay	17	24	3	37	111	124
N.Y. Islanders	14	25	5	33	114	144

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Quebec	29	12	4	60	174	127
Pittsburgh	28	13	2	58	167	138
Boston	23	17	6	49	154	115
Buffalo	19	18	6	44	114	107
Hartford	19	21	5	43	123	132
Montreal	18	21	5	41	119	136
Ottawa	5	33	5	15	91	180

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	31	9	4	66	170	105
Chicago	29	12	5	63	154	120
Toronto	20	19	5	45	139	111
Dallas	18	17	9	45	123	123
Winnipeg	17	20	9	42	122	122
San Jose	14	23	7	35	145	186

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary	23	16	6	52	152	124
Vancouver	16	21	9	41	137	133
Los Angeles	16	24	4	36	124	185
San Jose	16	24	4	36	111	151
Anaheim	15	24	5	35	113	151

Washed playoff berth
y-playoff division title

Too many contenders in NBA playoffs

OPINION

BRIAN FREEMAN

THERE was no mistake in the NBA standings.

The Boston Celtics, with 35 wins, 47 losses and a .427 winning percentage have "earned" a playoff berth and a first-round encounter with the conference-best Orlando Magic (57-25).

The NBA, which has a marvelous product and some of the world's greatest athletes and showmen, seems intent on embarrassing itself.

It seems like every year the lenient playoff system gives a more pathetic team a chance to compete for the title.

Last season the mediocre Denver Nuggets (42-40) "won" the last playoff berth and defeated the league-best Seattle SuperSonics (63-19).

The sad truth, however, is that Boston's record is not unusual at all.

In fact, it is only the worst mark to make the playoffs since the San Antonio Spurs grabbed a spot with a 31-51 (.378) record in 1987-88. That same season, two other clubs (the Washington Bullets and New York Knicks) made the playoffs with 38-44 marks, as did Miami in 1991-92.

However, even these terrible records don't approach the worst record ever to make the playoffs - that dubious distinction belongs to the 1952-53 Baltimore Bullets, whose 16-54 record (.229) was "good" enough to edge out the Philadelphia Warriors (12-57) for the final playoff spot.

The list of all teams with sub-.500 records to make the playoffs in NBA history would be too long

to print here.

Instead, what follows are a few examples of such clubs which not only made the post-season but then knocked off legitimate contenders for the crown.

● The 1958-59 Minneapolis Lakers (33-39) defeated the division-winning St. Louis Hawks (49-23) in the Western Division finals to capture a berth against the Celtics.

● The 1980-81 Houston Rockets (40-42) defeated both the division-winning Los Angeles Lakers (54-28) and San Antonio (52-30) en route to the Western Conference finals.

There, they met the Kansas City Kings (also 40-42), who themselves knocked off the division-winning 57-25 Phoenix Suns (that turned out to be a meaningless regular season). Houston won the matchup, losing to Boston in the finals.

● The 1986-87 Seattle SuperSonics (39-43) beat the division-winning Dallas Mavericks (55-27) in the opening round of the playoffs.

So, NBA, please eliminate some playoff rounds before we end up having something so unbecoming for such a great game - something like the World Champion 21-61 Minnesota Timberwolves.

First-round playoffs (best-of-5, prefix not denote seedings)

EASTERN CONFERENCE

8-Boston at 1-Orlando, tomorrow

7-Atlanta at 2-Indiana, tonight

6-Cleveland at 3-New York, tonight

5-Chicago at 4-Charlotte, tomorrow

WESTERN CONFERENCE

8-Denver at 1-San Antonio, tomorrow

7-Portland at 2-Phoenix, tonight

6-Houston at 3-Utah, tonight

5-Lakers at 4-Seattle, tomorrow

Injury forces Sampras out of Monte Carlo Open

MONTE CARLO (Reuter) - Top seed Pete Sampras was forced to pull out of the Monte Carlo Open tennis tournament yesterday after badly twisting his ankle halfway through his second-round match against Dutchman Paul Haarhuis.

The former world NO. 1, who was gearing up in the principality for next month's French Open, the only Grand Slam tournament he has yet to win, sustained the injury while trying to catch a forehand winner from Haarhuis.

The American had taken the first set 6-4 and was in the third game of the second set when the incident occurred. He limped back to his seat, asked for the doctor and quickly decided to concede the match.

The injury was especially dramatic as Sampras, who has always had problems to adapt to

clay, had seemed to be mastering the surface at last.

"He played very well. I was really surprised with his backhand. He was playing it like a clay court specialist," Haarhuis said.

But Sampras, whose push to regain his world No. 1 ranking from Andre Agassi is now on hold, was not the only seed to bow out in his first match at the \$1.8 million event.

Michael Stich also discovered how difficult it is to adapt to clay-court tennis.

The German, seeded sixth, bowed in straight sets to in-form Austrian Gilbert Schaller 7-6, 6-1 in the second round.

Stich's compatriot Boris Becker was far more impressive. The second seed, also bidding to win his first tournament on clay, dismissed Swede Jonas Bjorkman 6-3 6-1.

Watch out for Jordan's Chicago

CHICAGO (AP) - Advice to the Charlotte Hornets and anyone else who might meet the Chicago Bulls in the NBA playoffs: Get a lead and keep building on it until you hear the final horn.

Because, Milwaukee Bucks coach Mike Dunleavy says, "You let them stay close. In most cases, you're going to go down."

In last year's second-round loss to the New York Knicks, the Bulls repeatedly struggled in the fourth quarter. That shouldn't happen this year with Mr. Fourth Quarter himself, Michael Jordan, back from retirement.

"He's got the ability to take games over and make anything happen," said Dunleavy, who coached the Los Angeles Lakers team that lost to Jordan's Bulls in the 1991 NBA Finals - Chicago's first of three consecutive championships. "They can win it. The key for them is keeping games close."

Dunleavy isn't the only educated observer who considers Chicago a favorite, even though it probably won't have home-court advantage in any playoff round.

Charlotte coach Allan Bristow, whose team opens the postseason at home tomorrow against the Bulls, knows they are better than their 47-35 record indicates. Chicago, 34-31 before Jordan returned, is 13-4 with him.

"It's just amazing how much he has lifted that team," Bristow said. "They would have led the league in wins if he would have played the whole season."

Jordan, who averaged 26.9 points in his 17 games back, is the picture of confidence.

"I wouldn't have come back," he said, "if I didn't think we were capable of winning."

Scottie Pippen, who has willingly slipped back into his No. 2 role, also likes the team's chances.

"People are expecting a lot from us. And we're expecting a lot from ourselves," he said. "If myself, Michael and Toni (Kukoc) can play really big throughout the playoffs, our chances look great."

Toni Kukoc, a fine offensive player, is out of position at power forward. He has been manhandled at times, forcing coach Phil Jackson to juggle his lineup.

"There are a bunch of weaknesses on teams in the East. Whoever can exploit those is who's going to come out of it," Dunleavy said. "Orlando's got their free-throw shooting. The Knicks have had problems with teams over .500."

"If I look at Chicago, the one thing I'd say is the power forward spot. Will they be able to shut down somebody with a big, tough power forward that can dominate a game?"

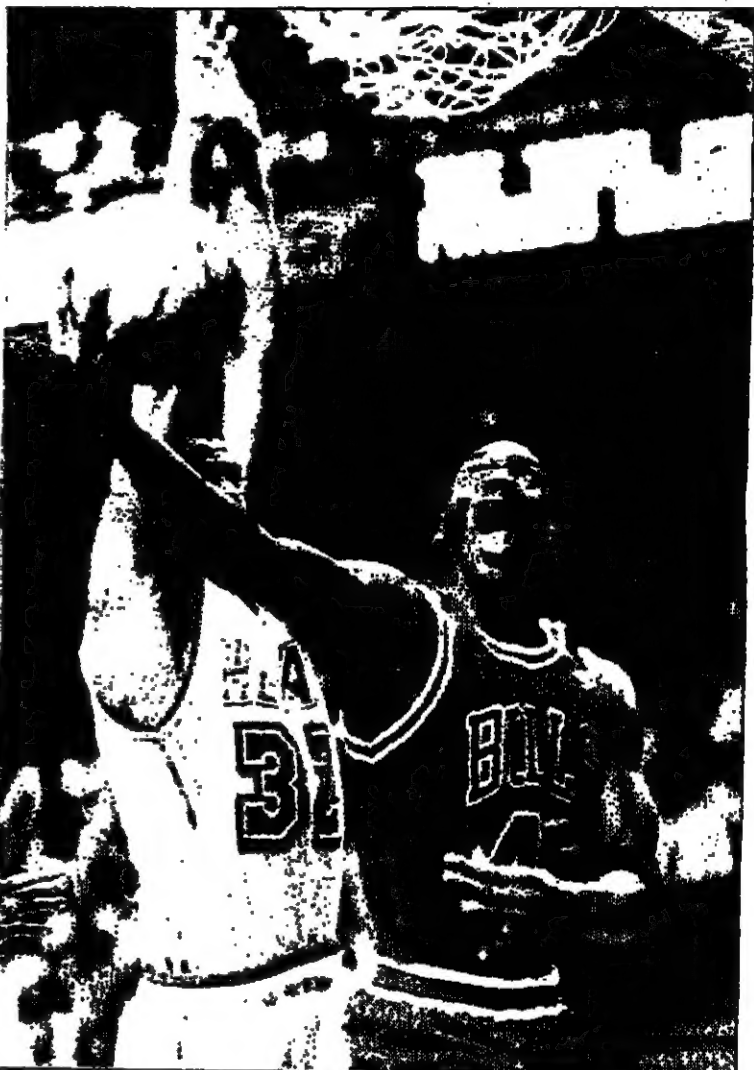
Said Jordan: "It's a concern. We don't have the power forward that we had two years ago (Horace Grant, now with Orlando). But we don't know that that's going to be one of the demands that's needed."

In other words, the league isn't as strong as it was during the Bulls' championship years.

Jackson agrees and thinks his team is peaking at the perfect time.

"Before, we were expected to win. There's pressure when you have one of the best records in the league and home court advantage," the coach said. "This is not a big standings year for us, so we haven't set up the precedent of 'This is our year, this is our championship, we deserve it, we've won 60 games.'"

"We've won 47. We know where we're at. But we've been as hot as anybody at the end of this year and we deserve to give this playoff every potential, every chance, to win as much as we've done in the last five years."



BACK IN TIME - Michael Jordan could lead the Bulls to their fourth championship in five years. (AP)

Rugby union moving toward pro competition

LONDON (Reuter) - Rugby union, officially still an amateur sport, moved closer towards full professionalism yesterday with a proposed new Super Union competition next year involving teams from Australia and New Zealand.

Former New Zealand backs coach John Hart, who missed out the job of coaching the All Blacks at the World Cup starting in South Africa next month, outlined plans for the new competition and said players could earn around NZ\$ 50,000 (US \$33,700) each.

The Super Union series would involve six sides from New Zealand and two from Australia and replace the current Super 10 series which includes South African and Pacific islands teams.

A special meeting of the International Rugby Football Board (IRB) has been scheduled for Paris in August following the World Cup to discuss the vexed question of player payments.

The meeting had already been given extra urgency by media tycoon Rupert Murdoch's plans to set up a multi-million dollar global competition in the professional rugby league code, which would inevitably attract leading experts in the union code.

The New Zealand Press Association said 27 provincial rugby union chairman had given their approval to the New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) yesterday to set up regionally-selected teams to contest the planned new competition.

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Figure 1 is a line graph showing the relationship between the percentage of total effort and the percentage of total catch for five fish species. The x-axis represents the 'Percentage of total effort' from 0 to 100, and the y-axis represents the 'Percentage of total catch' from 0 to 100. The species are: Yellow perch, Rock bass, White perch, Striped bass, and Bluegill. Yellow perch shows a high catch percentage for low effort, while Bluegill shows a high catch percentage for high effort.

Percentage of total effort	Yellow perch	Rock bass	White perch	Striped bass	Bluegill
0	0	0	0	0	0
20	80	10	10	10	10
40	70	20	20	20	20
60	60	30	30	30	30
80	50	40	40	40	40
100	40	50	50	50	80